



CSL

FOR CONSULTATION ONLY

"THE FOURTH AND FIFTH" TOURS

OF

197

His Excellency LORD AMPHILL,
G.C.I.E.,

IN THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

JANUARY—FEBRUARY—MARCH 1902.

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Extracts from the "Madras Mail" and the "Hindu."

MADRAS:

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1902.

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CSL

FOURTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

FOURTH TOUR OF

DETAILED

Month and Date.	Day of the Week.	Arr. or Dep.	Stations.
1901.			
Dec. 31 ..	Tuesday ..	Dep.	Madras (Central Station).
1902.			
Jan. 1 ..	Wednesday ..	Arr. Dep. Arr. Dep. Arr. Dep. Arr. Dep. Arr. Dep.	Ongole Do. Bezwada Junction .. Do. Rajahmundry .. Do. Tuni Do. Waltair Junction .. Do.
" 2 ..	Thursday ..	Arr. Dep. Arr. Dep. Arr. Dep. Arr.	Cuttack Do. Balasore Do. Khargpur Junction .. Do. Calcutta (Howrah) ..
" 3 ..	Friday ..	..	} At Calcutta ..
" 4 ..	Saturday ..	..	
" 5 ..	Sunday ..	..	
" 6 ..	Monday ..	..	
" 7 ..	Tuesday ..	..	
" 8 ..	Wednesday ..	..	



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HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

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PROGRAMME.

Time.		Distance.	Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
		MILES.	
..	10-0	..	Departure, private; by special train, N.-E. Line, Madras Railway.
6-10	..	181	Early Tea.
6-25	..	..	
10-0	..	86	Breakfast.
10-30	..	..	
..	2-10	93	Luncheon.
..	..	..	
..	4-53	65	Evening Tea.
..	5-7	..	
..	7-15	59	Dinner.
..	8-0	..	
5-45	..	293	Early Tea.
6- 5	..	..	
10-22	..	109	Breakfast.
10-52	..	..	
..	1-40	72	Luncheon.
..	2-0	..	
..	5-15	71	Arrival, private.
..	..	..	

FOURTH TOUR OF

Month and Date.	Day of the Week.	Arr. or Dep.	Stations.
1902			
Jan 9 ..	Thursday ..	Dep	Howrah (Calcutta) ..
		Arr.	Kharagpur
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Balasore
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Cuttack
		Dep.	Do.
" 10 ..	Friday ..	Arr.	Waltair
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Tuni
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Ellore
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Bezwa
		Dep.	Do.
		Arr.	Ongole
		Dep.	Do.
" 11 ..	Saturday ..	Arr.	Madras (Central Station).



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HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

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Time.		Distance.	Remarks.
A.M.	P.M.		
		MILES.	
9-35	..	..	Departure private, by the B.N. Rail- way special train.
..	12-30	..	Luncheon.
..	1-0	..	
..	3-50	..	Evening Tea.
..	4- 0	..	
..	8-15	..	Dinner.
..	8-45	..	
7-30	..	..	Early Tea.
7-50	..	..	
9-42	..	..	Breakfast.
10-20	..	..	
..	2-49	..	Luncheon.
..	3-17	..	
..	4-28	..	Evening Tea.
..	4-45	..	
..	8- 0	..	Dinner.
..	8-45	..	
6-50	..	..	Arrival, private.

SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE FOURTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Ampthill left Madras by special train for Calcutta at 10 P.M. on the evening of Tuesday, December 31st, 1901, on a visit to His Excellency the Viceroy.

During his stay in Calcutta His Excellency paid a visit to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and received visits from the Members of the Viceroy's Council and most of the Secretaries to the Government of India.

Their Excellencies returned to Madras on the morning of Saturday, January 11th, 1902.

The party accompanying Their Excellencies were—

The Lady Maud Lygon.

The Hon'ble Violet Douglas Pennant.

L. M. Wynch, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary.

Captain W. MacL. Campbell, Military Secretary.

Captain R. D'A. Fife, Aide-de-Camp.

Captain G. F. Higgins, Aide-de-Camp.



FIFTH TOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

His Excellency The GOVERNOR.

* Her Excellency The Lady AMPHILL, C.I.

L. M. WYNCH, Esq., I.C.S., *Private Secretary.*

* Captain W. MOLESWORTH, I.M.S., *Surgeon.*

* Captain R. D'A. FIFE, *Acting Military Secretary.*

Captain N. B. G. STRONG, *Aide-de-Camp.*

(1 English Maid.)

* Joined His Excellency at Tanjore on the 25th.

FIFTH TOUR OF

CSL

DETAILED

Month and Date.	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1902.					
Feb. 23	Sunday ..	Dep.	Madras ..	..	6-15 7-43
„ 24	Monday ..	Arr.	Trichinopoly ..	5-54 9-30	 2-0 6-30 8-0
„ 25	Tuesday ..	Dep. Arr.	Trichinopoly .. Tanjore ..	2-50 4-18 7-0	 7-20 to 8-45 9-30 2-0 3-30 8-0 9-30 9-45
„ 26	Wednesday.	..	Vallam (English Mail Day).	.. 9-0	.. 1-0 2-0



PROGRAMME.

Functions and Remarks.

By the S.I.R. fast mail train.
Dinner at the Railway Station (Chingleput).

Chota hazri at Station and Inspection of Boer Camp.
Breakfast at Collector's house and see visitors (H.H. the Rajah of Pudukkóttai and Mr. A. Sankariah.)

Lunch.

Consecration of the Masonic Lodge "Rock."

Masonic Dinner—Sleep in train.

By the ordinary mail train.

Her Excellency and rest of the party arrive from Madras at 4-32 A.M.—Sleep in train till morning—Chota hazri in train.

Public arrival. H.E. presents Medal to Lieut. O'Shaughnessy parading with Guard of Honour. Municipal address of Welcome.

Drive into Tanjore, and visit the Hospital, Public Offices, and District Jail, and drive to Vallam.

Breakfast at Vallam.

Lunch.

Drive to Tanjore, visit the Palace, the Ranees, St. Peter's College, Schwartz Church, and Temple, and drive back to Vallam (about 7 P.M.).

Dinner (with guests).

Levéé.

Reception (with address) by the Reception Committee on Tanks bund and Fireworks.

Talk with ryots and inspect some typical holdings, etc., before breakfast.

Breakfast.

Deputation from the Tanjore Permanent Fund and interviews with the Executive Engineer Mr. Wickham and the Special Executive Engineer.

Lunch.

FIFTH TOUR OF

Month and Date.	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1902. Feb. 26	Wednesday.	..	Vallam (English Mail Day).	..	4-30 to 6-0 8-0
" 27	Thursday ..	Dep. Arr.	Tanjore Negapatam	.. 5-20 .. 7-50	
				9-30	.. 2-0 3-30 4-15 5-15 8-0
" 28	Friday ..	Dep. Arr.	Negapatam Tranquebar	.. 7-0 .. about .. 10-0	 1-30 3-0 4-0 8-0 9-30 10-30
Mar. 1	Saturday ..	Dep. Arr. Dep. Arr.	Do. Porear Road Stn. Porear Road Stn. Kumbakónam	 3-15 7-0	 9-30 2-0 3-15 3-45 5-30 6-30 8-0



Functions and Remarks.

} Garden Party (for Europeans and Natives).

Dinner (no guests) and drive to Gravel Quarry Siding and sleep in train.

By Special train for Negapatam. Chota hazri in train.

Arrival public and Address of Welcome—visit the old Dutch Church and inspect the Railway Workshops and drive to Col. Creighton's house about 8-45.

Breakfast at Col. Creighton's.

Lunch.

Private interview with the Hon'ble Mr. P. Rathnasabhpathi Pillai.

Levé and the Citizens' Address in Reception Pandal.

Visit Hospital and Harbour.

Station Dinner, followed by a Native entertainment in the Reception Pandal.

By road for Tranquebar. Visit the Nagore Durga and exchange Courtesies with M. L'Administrateur at Karikal, on the way.

Breakfast.

Lunch (with guests, German Lutheran Missionaries).

Address, and private interview with Mr. Rathnasami Nadar.

Visit old Castle and Churches and talk with ryots.

Dinner.

By road—Drive to the Porear Road Station.

Sleep in train.

By Special train for Kumbakonam—Chota hazri in train.

Arrival public and receive Address of Welcome. Visit the Arasalar and Nattar Head Works, visit Native High School, and the Government Girls' School and arrive at Sub-Collector's bungalow 8-45.

Breakfast at the Sub-Collector's bungalow.

Lunch.

Visit from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Kumbakonam.

Drive to Town High School and to Seshiah Sastri's and thence to the Government College and drive back to Railway Station.

By Special train for Tanjore.

Drive to the Judge's house.

Dinner at the Judge's house.

Month and date.	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A. M.	P. M.
1902. Mar. 2	Sunday ..	..	At Tanjore ..	9-30	..
					2-0
					8-0
„ 3	Monday ..	Dep.	Tanjore ..	5-15	..
		Arr.	Thiruvarambur.	6-10	..
		Dep.	Do.	6-30	..
		Arr.	Grand Anicut ..	7-30	..
				9-30	..
					2-0
		Dep.	Do. ..	..	5-15
		Arr.	Thiruvarambur.	..	6-15
		Dep.	Do.	..	6-30
		Arr.	Trichinopoly ..	..	6-45
					8-0
„ 4	Tuesday ..	Dep.	Trichinopoly ..	5-20	..
		Arr.	Dindigul ..	8-20	..
				12 Noon	..
					1-30
		Dep.	Do. ..	..	5-5
		Arr.	Madura ..	..	6-30
					8-0
„ 5	Wednesday.	..	At Madura (English Mail Day).	7-0	..
				8-0	..
				9-0	..
				9-30	..
				11-0	..
					2-0
					4-0
					5-15
					6-30
					8-0



Functions and Remarks.

Breakfast.

Lunch.

Dinner—Drive to Railway Station and sleep in train.

By Special train for the Grand Anicut.

Chota hazri in train.

By road—Drive to the Grand Anicut (8 miles).

Inspect the Anicut, etc., before breakfast.

Breakfast at the Anicut bungalow and talk with ryots after breakfast.

Lunch.

Tea and drive back to Thiruvarambur Railway Station.

By Special train for Trichinopoly.

Dinner at Railway Station and sleep in train.

By Special train for Dindigul. Chota hazri on the way in train at about 7 A.M.

Arrival public. Drive to Sub-Collector's bungalow for breakfast.

Receive Municipal Address and address from the Rate-Payers at the bungalow.

Lunch at Messrs. Spencer & Co.'s. Inspect their Cigar Factory after luncheon, and drive to Railway Station.

By Special train for Madura.

Arrival public. Drive to Collector's house.

Dinner—and drive round the Teppakulam to see the illuminations.

Visit the Palace, where members of the Bench and Bar of Madura will be presented to H.E.

Visit Meenakshi Temple.

Open the new premises of the Madura Hindu Permanent Fund.

Breakfast.

Receive Addresses from—

(1) The Municipal Council of Madura.

(2) The Reception Committee.

Lunch

Visit the Technical Institute.

Lay the Foundation Stone of the American Mission Girls' High School (near the Railway bridge).

Visit the Masonic Lodge.

Dinner.

FIFTH TOUR OF

Month and Date.	Day.	Arr. or Dep.	Station.	Time.	
				A.M.	P.M.
1902.					
Mar. 6	Thursday ..	..	At Madura ..	7-0	..
				9-30	..
				12	..
				noon.	2-0
					5-0
					5-15
					8-15
„ 7	Friday ..	..	Madura ..	7-0	..
				8-0	..
				9-0	..
				9-30	..
					1-30
					2-0
					3-0
					4-30
					5-0
					7-30
		Dep.	Do. ..	..	8-40
		Arr.	Ammaya- náyakkanúr.	..	9-57
„ 8	Saturday ..	..	Ammaya- náyakkanúr.	6-0	..
				10-30	..
		Dep.	Do. ..	..	4-16
					7-38
„ 9	Sunday ..	..		6-9	..
		Arr.	Madras ..	7-45	..



Functions and Remarks.

Ride to Pothumb village (6 miles) and talk with ryots and inspect cultivation.

Breakfast.

Sourashtra and Muhammadan Deputations.

Lunch.

Informal Visit to the Union Club.

Garden Party at the Collector's house.

Dine with Mr. and Mrs. Moberly.

Visit the District Jail.

Visit the Municipal Hospital.

Visit Dr. vanAllen's Hospital.

Breakfast.

Visit from the Zamindar of Ettayapuram.

Lunch.

Her Excellency, with Capt. Molesworth and Capt. Fife, leaves for Madras by the fast mail train.

Visit Setupathi High School.

Visit Native College.

Dinner.

By the ordinary mail train for Ammayanáyakkanúr.

Sleep in the Local Fund Travellers' bungalow.

Ride to the Peranai and inspect the Dam, etc., and return to the Local Fund bungalow for breakfast

Breakfast.

Lunch.

By the fast mail train for Madras. Afternoon tea at Dindigul Railway Station at 5-3.

Dinner at Trichinopoly Railway Station (Train leaves 8-9).

Chota hazri at Chingleput Railway Station (Train stops 10 minutes).

Drive to Government House, Mount Road.

*List of Officials and Non-officials presented to
 His Excellency.*

No.	Name.	Designation.
I.—TANJORE.		
1	G. F. T. Power, Esq., I.C.S.	District Judge.
2	Col. H. A. F. Nailer ..	District Medical and Sanitary Officer.
3	L. L. Wickham, Esq. ..	Executive Engineer.
4	W. A. Doig, Esq. ..	Assistant Collector.
5	C. Brooke-Leggatt, Esq. ..	Superintendent of Police.
6	G. H. Cockburn, Esq. ..	Assistant Superintendent of Police.
7	Rev. W. H. Blake ..	S.P.G. Mission and Principal, St. Peter's College.
8	Rev. K. T. Rüeger ..	L.E.L. Mission.
9	Rev. J. Zuzarte ..	R.C. Mission.
10	M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur S. A. Subramania Aiyar Avargal	Special Executive Engineer.
11	M.R.Ry. N. Sarvothama Row Avargal.	Sub-Judge.
12	M.R.Ry. A. Prabalanadha Pillai Avargal.	Treasury Deputy Collector.
13	M.R.Ry. S. Ramu Aiyar Avargal.	Deputy Collector.
14	M.R.Ry. M. Ravi Varma Raja Avargal.	Do.
15	M.R.Ry. A. Ramacha Nedungádi Avargal.	Do.
16	M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur M. Arumugam Pillai Avargal.	Do.
17	M.R.Ry. T. A. Alaga Pillai Avargal.	Chairman, Municipal Council, Máyavaram.
18	M.R.Ry. V. Appasami Vandayar Avargal.	Reception Committee Member.
19	M.R.Ry. R. Saminatha Vijaya Thevar Avargal.	Reception Committee Member (Zamindar of Pappanad).



No.	Name.	Designation.
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I.—TANJORE—*cont.*

20	M.R.Ry. S. Ramachandra Aiyar Avargal.	Reception Committee Member (Government Pleader).
21	M.R.Ry. K. S. Srinivasa Pillai Avargal.	Reception Committee President.
22	M.R.Ry. P. R. Natesa Aiyar Avargal.	Reception Committee Member (late Government Pleader).
23	M.R.Ry. A. Annasami Thevar Avargal.	Reception Committee Member (Mirasdar).
24	M.R.Ry. Kunniyur Sambasiva Aiyar Avargal.	Do.
25	V. Ry. Yeswanta Row Survei.	Palace Member.
26	V. Ry. Reghunatha Row Survei.	Do.
27	Ry. V. Iswarianandaji Sahib.	Do.
28	Ry. V. Varadanandaji Sahib.	Do.
29	Ry. V. Bhavanni Sahib ..	Do.
30	V. Ry. Manoba Sahib ..	Do.
31	V. Ry. Govinda Row Girpoda.	Do.

II.—NEGAPATAM.

1	F. D. Oldfield, Esq. ..	Sub-Collector.
2	Col. C. E. Crighton ..	Loco. Superintendent.
3	Lt.-Col. C. Crighton ..	Commandant, S.I.R. Volunteers.
4	J. Inglis, Esq. ..	Executive Engineer.
5	A. S. Kearns, Esq. ..	Assistant Commissioner, Negapatam Sub-division.
6	Rev. A. A. Thomas ..	Reception Committee Member (Wesleyan Mission).
7	Rev. J. J. Luis ..	Reception Committee Member (R.C. Mission).
8	Dr. E. C. Foston ..	Superintendent of Emigration.

No.	Name.	Designation.
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II.—NEGAPATAM—*cont.*

9	McConechy, Esq. ..	Reception Committee Member (Agent, Madura Company).
10	Capt. Mercar ..	Reception Committee Member (Adjutant of S.I.R. Volunteers).
11	Cave Brown, Esq. ..	Reception Committee Member (Auditor, S.I.R., and Lay Trustee of the Church).
12	E. Chapman, Esq. ..	Agent, Madura Company.
13	M.R.Ry. K. Ramachandra Aiyar Avargal.	Sub-Judge.
14	M.R.Ry. C. R. Kunjithapatham Aiyar Avargal.	Chairman, Municipal Council, Negapatam.
15	M.R.Ry. V. Chinna Marakayar Malumiar Avargal.	Reception Committee Member (late Managing Trustee, Nagore Durga).
16	M.R.Ry. M. G. Ramasami Pillai Avargal.	Merchant, Negapatam.

III.—KUMBAKONAM.

1	L. Vibert, Esq., I.C.S. ..	Head Assistant Collector.
2	Rt. Rev. Bishop Bottaro ..	R.C. Mission.
3	H. S. Duncan, Esq. ..	Principal, Government College.
4	M.R.Ry. P. Gurumurthi Aiyar Avargal.	Sub-Judge.
5	M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. Raghunatha Row Avargal.	Retired Deputy Collector.
6	M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur S. Appu Sastriar Avargal.	Proprietor, Native High School.
7	M.R.Ry. T. S. Sivasami Udayar Avargal.	Chairman, Municipal Council.
8	M.R.Ry. S. Sivagurunadha Chettiar Avargal.	Reception Committee Member (late Chairman, Municipal Council).

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

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No.	Name.	Designation.
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III.—KUMBAKONAM—cont.

9	M.R.Ry. N. Krishnasami Aiyangar Avargal.	Secretary, Town High School.
10	M.R.Ry. P. Narayanasami Aiyar Avargal.	Retired Sub-Judge.
11	M.R.Ry. A. Krishnasami Aiyar Avargal.	Retired Deputy Collector.
12	M.R.Ry. A. Seshiah Sastriar Avargal, c.s.i.	Late Diwan, Travancore and Pudukkóttai.
13	M.R.Ry. B. Rajagopala Chettiar Avargal.	Reception Committee Mem- ber (District Board Mem- ber).
14	M.R.Ry. T. S. Sivavadivelu Udayar Avargal.	Reception Committee Mem- ber (Municipal Coun- cillor).
15	M.R.Ry. J. V. Badrasami Chettiar Avargal.	Reception Committee Mem- ber.

NARRATIVE OF THE JOURNEY, FUNCTIONS, ADDRESSES, REPLIES, ETC.

February—March 1902.

23rd. *February.*—His Excellency the Governor left Madras this evening on his tour in the Southern Districts. The departure was private, but there were present at Egmore station the Hon'ble Mr. and Mrs. Winterbotham, the Hon'ble Mr. Forbes, the Hon'ble Mr. Thomson, the Hon'ble Mr. Atkinson, Mr. J. Twigg, Mr. Stevenson, Inspector-General of Police, Mr. O. R. Jones, Commissioner of Police, and Mr. Fawcett, Superintendent of Railway Police. Mr. Wynch, Private Secretary, and Captain Strong, Aide-de-camp, accompanied His Excellency. The Hon'ble Mr. Bradley and Mr. J. Adam travelled by the same train to assist at the consecration of Lodge "Rock" at Trichinopoly by Lord Ampthill to-morrow evening. Mr. Creighton travelled in charge of the train. A rather amusing incident occurred at the Governor's departure. The warning bell was rung and soon afterwards the train started, leaving His Excellency on the platform! The train was stopped and backed, and His Excellency got in.

TRICHINOPOLY, 24th *Feb.*—His Excellency the Governor arrived here this morning, the arrival being private. He was met on the platform by Mr.

R. H. Shipley, I.C.S., the Collector. Amongst those present on the platform were : Mr. H. G. Joseph, District Judge, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Bolderson, Officer Commanding the 17th Regiment, M.I., Mr. C. W. G. Clogstoun, Superintendent of Police, Mr. H. Davies, Traffic Manager, South Indian Railway, Mr. T. V. Annasami Mudaliar, Municipal Chairman, Mr. C. Krishnasawmi Naidu, Head-quarters Deputy Collector, Mr. T. Sundara Rao, Treasury Deputy Collector, and Mr. J. K. Lancashire, I.C.S., Assistant Collector. From the station His Excellency, accompanied by the Collector, Mr. Wynch and Captain Strong, drove to the Boer camp, which is 3 miles away on the Pudukkóttai road. At the camp he was met by Major Ivatt, Colonel Boddy, R.E., and Captain Mansel, Commanding the Camp. His Excellency first walked round the hospital outside the camp. Out of a total strength of about 700 men in camp there were only 3 in hospital, which testifies to the excellent health of the camp. Accompanied by the officers, His Excellency next walked round the camp and also through some of the men's and Boer officers' huts. The Governor spoke to one of the Boer officers and learnt that the men had no complaints to make as regards their treatment. Before leaving the camp His Excellency inspected the electric installation.

After breakfast at the Collector's, His Excellency received visits from the Rajah of Pudukkóttai and Mr. A. Sankariah, retired Diwan Peishkar of Cochin.



AT TRICHINOPOLY.

TANJORE, 25th Feb.—His Excellency the Governor's visit to Trichinopoly being quite private, nothing of importance from the public or official point of view was done there. His visit to the town was undertaken mainly in response to the invitation of the Freemasons, who were anxious to get the District Grand Master of Freemasonry in the Presidency to perform the important ceremony of consecration in connection with the new premises of the Lodge "Rock," which is said to be one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Lodge in Southern India, dating, as it does, 86 years back. A number of Freemasons from the Southern Districts went to Trichinopoly to be present on the occasion of that interesting ceremony, which took place yesterday at 6-30 P.M. Later in the evening, His Excellency attended a Masonic Banquet in the Railway Institute, to which a number of non-Masonic guests had also been invited, over 50 covers being laid. At the conclusion of the banquet His Excellency drove to the Junction Railway Station, where he took leave of Mr. R. H. Shipley, the Collector, and of the Hon'ble Mr. H. Bradley, who came to Trichinopoly in connection with the Masonic function. He slept in his saloon which was drawn up in a siding, and left Trichinopoly by the ordinary Mail train at 2-50 A.M. to-day.

AT TANJORE.

On the arrival of the train at Tanjore at day-break, His Excellency's saloon was detached and

shunted on to a siding. A few minutes after the arrival of the train, the fast Mail reached the station from Madras, bringing Her Excellency Lady Ampthill, Captain W. Molesworth, I.M.S., and Captain R. D.'A. Fife, Acting Military Secretary. Their saloons were also detached from the train and shunted on to a siding.

His Excellency's arrival at Tanjore being public, a large number of the leading official and non-official residents of the place with Mr. J. Andrew, the Collector, at their head, assembled on the station platform to welcome Their Excellencies. The new and extensive station premises which are being constructed, promise to be one of the best station houses on the South Indian Railway. A portion of the long platform was tastefully decorated and a detachment of 100, rank and file of the South Indian Railway Volunteers under the command of Captain Mercer, the Adjutant, furnished the Guard of Honour. At 7 A.M. the saloons of Their Excellencies and party were drawn alongside the platform, and on alighting, the principal European and Native residents assembled were introduced to the Governor and Her Excellency by Mr. Andrew.

His Excellency next inspected the Guard of Honour with Colonel Creighton and Captain Mercer, and then presented the Command Medal for Rifle shooting to Lieutenant O'Shaughnessy who was parading with Guard of Honour on the platform. Addressing him His Excellency said :—

LIEUTENANT O'SHAUGHNESSY,—You have distinguished yourself and reflected credit on the Corps to which you belong by proving yourself the best shot in the Command. I heartily congratulate you, and the South Indian Railway Volunteers who have thus for the third time welcomed one of their members as the winner of the Command Medal. I am very glad to have this opportunity of presenting your medal to you. I wish you continued success in the important accomplishment in which you have already showed so much skill.

THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

His Excellency then received the following address, enclosed in a beautiful silver casket, from the Municipal Council of Tanjore:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the members of the Municipal Council, Tanjore, beg to welcome Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill with feelings of profound respect and loyalty to this ancient and historic town, which was once the seat of fine arts and learning, and the pride of Southern India.

After the accession of His Most Gracious Majesty, Our Beloved King Emperor, this is the first opportunity we have been afforded to welcome Your Excellency as his representative. Ever since Your Excellency landed in India we have been closely watching with very great interest Your Excellency's career and it has been extremely gratifying to us to have found it to be uniformly marked

with great benevolence, anxious solicitude for the welfare of the people committed to Your Excellency's care and a deep sense of the onerous duties that have devolved upon Your Excellency. We hope that Your Excellency will continue to rule over this Presidency with the same benevolence and justice and be a source of unmixed blessing to the people.

It will not be out of place to mention here that this Municipality has been able with the kind and generous aid of Your Excellency's predecessors in office to confer on the people the benefits of a good water-supply which has been the means of promoting the health of the town and of warding off to a great extent the visitation of epidemic diseases, and we fully hope and pray that such generous aid may be given to us further whenever we may be in need of it under Your Excellency's regime.

We beg to state here that we appreciate most heartily the ardent and active interest with which Her Excellency Lady Ampthill has been working for the cause of the women of this country and feel deeply thankful to her. Her Excellency truly represents the motherly tenderness of our late Beloved Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India.

In conclusion, we humbly pray that the Almighty may bless Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill with long life, health and prosperity.

His Excellency replied as follows :—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF TANJORE,—Your cordial and generous



words of welcome add not a little to my pleasure in visiting your town, which you justly describe as ancient and historic. The origin of your city is lost in the mists of antiquity and is the subject of an interesting legend which attributes the name to "Tanján"—a Rakshasa or giant who was destroyed by the god Vishnu; but certain it is that since the eleventh century, Tanjore has been the capital of three great Hindu Dynasties, and, as you say, the seat of fine arts and learning. I see no reason why you should consider that title to distinction as irretrievably lost, or why you should not now re-establish the claim of your city to be the pride of Southern India. You have a great share of material prosperity, a large number of intelligent and enlightened citizens, who have shown their ability and enterprise particularly in the matter of railway development, and you have historic monuments which have given your city a name which is known throughout the world. With these advantages you have it in your power to maintain, at the present time, a reputation for your city commensurate with her former greatness. I am truly glad that you are free from anxiety with regard to the water-supply which is besetting so many other cities, and as regards your future requirements, you may rely on me to render any assistance that you can fairly ask for, and which it may be in my power to give. I am sincerely grateful to you for your generous appreciation of the anxious solicitude and deep sense of responsibility with which I am actuated; but I

disclaim any particular merit for these motives of conduct. They are shared, I think you will admit, by all those who work with me and for me in the administration of this Presidency, and I should be indeed blame-worthy if I were not animated and inspired by the spirit which I see around me. Lady Ampthill asks me to thank you in the same way for your kindly recognition of the sympathetic interest she truly takes in those duties which fall to her lot, and which she regards it as a pleasure to discharge. Before concluding, let me thank you most heartily for the beautiful casket in which you have been good enough to enclose your address and which I assure you I shall always value as a most pleasant souvenir of my arrival in Tanjore and of my visit there, which I feel perfectly certain will be full of much that is interesting and delightful. We thank you sincerely for the good wishes for our joint welfare, which you have so cordially expressed, and we assure you, for our part, that there is nothing that we more earnestly desire than the welfare of the people of this Presidency.

VISIT TO THE RAJAH MIRASIDAR'S HOSPITAL.

After being garlanded, Their Excellencies left the station for the Rajah Mirasidar's Hospital, the most important institution of its kind in the Madras Presidency. This model hospital is a splendid monument of what private enterprise and self-help on the part of the people supplemented by Government aid, can achieve in the direction of themselves sup-



plying their local wants. It was built in 1879 with the help of subscriptions raised chiefly from among the Mirasidars of Tanjore, of whom there are many enlightened representatives throughout the district. Mr. H. S. Thomas, a former Collector of Tanjore, who took great personal interest in it, was chiefly instrumental in bringing the philanthropic undertaking of the Mirasidars to a successful issue. Since its foundation in 1879, the hospital accommodation has been added to year after year with the help of donations by other benefactors, whose names are inscribed over the respective wards which they were responsible for bringing into existence. To-day there are 144 beds in the hospital; and medical relief is daily afforded to over 200 out-patients, notwithstanding the fact that there are two other dispensaries in the town. The hospital has a small medical school attached to it named after His Majesty the King-Emperor when he was the Prince of Wales, where at present there are 20 students training for the humble but very useful class of medical subordinates, viz., the Hospital Assistants. The hospital has an extensive compound where there is ample accommodation for the addition of a few more wards which will be greatly appreciated by the people of the town.

Their Excellencies were received at the hospital by Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. F. Nailer, I.M.S., the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, to whom in a large measure is due the efficiency and the popularity of the institution. They were conducted

through the several male and female wards which were scrupulously clean and well kept. Before leaving the hospital Lady Amphill planted a mango tree in the compound to commemorate Their Excellencies' visit to the place.

THE PUBLIC OFFICES.

The next place visited by the Governor was the new buildings for the accommodation of the Tanjore Collectorate, which has become *un fait accompli* after fifteen years of preliminary discussion and leisurely correspondence between the District officials, the Board of Revenue and the Government of India. Until a year ago the Collector's office was at Vallam, a village 7 miles from the town of Tanjore, which was a source of great inconvenience to parties who had daily business to transact with the Collector's establishment. The construction of this new building was commenced in 1896 and completed in 1900, but the time, trouble and money spent over it has resulted in its being made a fine, noble and compact structure capable of accommodating the whole of the District head-quarters establishment, including the District Board office and Local Fund Engineer's office. Mr. Andrew showed His Excellency over the whole of the building in the several compartments of which clerks were at work at the time of his visit.

THE DISTRICT JAIL.

Leaving the Public offices, His Excellency and Staff, accompanied by Mr. Andrew, drove to the

District Jail which is situated on the road to Vallam. At the Jail Lieutenant-Colonel Nailer, who is in charge of it, met him and showed him over the various departments of jail labour. There were 356 prisoners in the Jail, of whom as many as 221 were civil debtors. As a result of his inspection, His Excellency left the following record in the Visitors' book :—“ A cursory glance at the remarks of the official visitors in this book shows that for the past ten years they have been unable to find fault. After my visit this morning I am not a bit surprised at this absence of criticism. The jail seems to be in perfect order.”

From the jail, the Governor and party drove to Vallam, where they will stay during their short visit at the Collector's residence as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew. After breakfast and lunch at Vallam, Their Excellencies accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew, Mr. L. M. Wynch, Captain Strong, Mr. C. Brooke-Leggat, District Superintendent of Police, drove back to Tanjore at 4-30 P.M. to see the various places of interest in the town.

THE PALACE.

The first place of interest visited was the old Palace of the Mahratta Princesses who are the descendants and representatives of Sivaji, of historic fame, who, in his conquering expeditions had come down as far south as Tanjore and established a kingdom here. The Mahratta dynasty in Tanjore had suffered several vicissitudes of fortune and its

living representatives are now political pensioners at the hands of the British. Attached to the Palace there are still numerous paraphernalia which speak of the past story of the Mahratta family which once ruled in Tanjore. These emblems of Royalty in the shape of Silladars, Palace Band and State elephant, etc., were drawn up in rows on either side of the road leading from the gate to the quadrangle of the Palace. As Their Excellencies' carriage entered the outer square, the Palace Band played the National Anthem. On alighting from the carriage Their Excellencies were met by Mr. Oliver, the Receiver to the Palace, and Mr. A. Ramachan Nedungadi, the Deputy Collector, and conducted into the interior of the Palace, the pathway over which the distinguished visitors walked being throughout covered with red baize. They spent over half an hour in the Palace in seeing and admiring the curious and interesting paintings on the walls, the costly jewels and cloths of the ladies of the Palace, the rare specimens of rifles and guns which were exhibited for His Excellency's inspection. Among the rifles was one heavily plated and engraved which had been presented by the Honourable the East India Company to Surfoji Maharajah, a descendant of Sivaji. Surfoji and his predecessors, who had great taste for literature, both European and Indian, had collected a rare collection of English and Sanskrit works which were catalogued by the renowned Dr. Burnell and are estimated to have cost over £10,000. There are magnificent books



illustrative of Botany and Natural History from which Surfoji is said to have been taught these interesting branches of science. The Rajah, whose love for knowledge was unbounded, had a skeleton of the human body specially constructed in ivory, true in every anatomical detail to those met with in these days in every anatomical museum and laboratory. He is said to have learnt human anatomy with the aid of this ivory skeleton without, at the same time, undergoing the defilement of touching bone! By this extraordinary and costly means the Rajah had acquired a scientific knowledge of a subject, the study of which until comparatively recent years was not popular amongst high class natives on account of their prejudices against touching bones. Amongst the jewels which Their Excellencies examined with interest was a golden ring set with a costly ruby, presented to the last Princess by His Majesty the King-Emperor during his visit to this part of the country in 1876. Before leaving the Palace, Their Excellencies had a short interview with the Ranees, with the help of a European lady interpreter, and were garlanded before they left.

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE.

The next institution visited was the St. Peter's College, a most flourishing educational institution.

The Rev. W. H. Blake welcomed Their Excellencies at the entrance and took them round the various classes wherein the boys were at work and greeted Their Excellencies as they entered with the chorus

“ Good Evening Your Excellencies.” In the upstairs hall Their Excellencies took their seats and the Rev. W. H. Blake then read the following address :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Principal, Professors, Masters, and students of St. Peter’s College and Schools, beg respectfully to offer our hearty welcome to Lady Ampthill and Your Excellency, and to express the great pleasure we feel at Your Excellencies’ kindness in visiting our College. The Tanjore College is maintained by the S.P.G. Society, and claims to be one of the oldest educational institutions in India. It certainly is the oldest in the Madras Presidency. It traces its origin to an English School opened at the end of the eighteenth century by the Rev. Father C. F. Schwartz, the first Missionary of the Church of England in these Southern Districts. He it was, who, first at the suggestion of Mr. Sullivan, the Resident of Tanjore, observed the advantage, to Government and to the country, of the people being instructed in English. He, therefore, in 1786, opened here in Tanjore a “Provincial School for the teaching of English”; and on the recommendation of the Resident a special annual grant for this purpose was made by Government in 1787. This grant was renewed in 1809, and, under the name of the Schwartz’ grant, it has been continued to this institution ever since, up to the present time. The Provincial School was first opened in the house in the Fort, which had been occupied by Father Schwartz, when he first settled in Tanjore. This house is



still in the possession of the Mission, and is now used for the Fort S.P.G. Lower Secondary School. The school was subsequently held in rooms built by His Highness Sarabojee Maharajah of Tanjore near the Mission Church; and in 1880 it was transferred to the present building. In 1863 candidates were first sent up for the Matriculation Examination. The next year it was raised to a Second-grade College; in 1874 B.A. classes were opened, and the College was affiliated as a First-grade College of the Madras University. It is at present affiliated in two branches, History and Philosophy. Attached to the College there is a High School; and in connection with it there are four Lower Secondary schools and five Primary Schools in different parts of the town. Attached to the College also there are two Hostels, one for Christian students, and the other for Brahmīns with separate arrangements for Saivites and Vaishnavites. From the time of its affiliation 132 graduates have passed from the College, 385 have passed the F.A. Examination, and 539 the Matriculation Examination. In the last University Examination, 8 students of the College passed the English Language Branch of the B.A., and 11 were successful in the second Language Branch; one of these has distinguished himself by being the only first class in the Tamil Branch, and is entitled to the Franklin Gell gold medal; 5 students of the College have this year completed the B.A. course. In the F.A. Examination 15 passed with 2 in the first class; and in the Matriculation 25

with one first class. At present there are 127 students in the College department, 258 in the High School and 814 in the schools, making a total of 1,198 students. In conclusion, we heartily thank Your Excellency for the great honour Your Excellency has done us in visiting our College, and we pray that God may bless Lady Ampthill and Your Excellency with health, long life and prosperity.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply His Excellency thanked them on his behalf and on behalf of Lady Ampthill for their kind words of welcome. He was glad to have visited during his stay in Tanjore the oldest educational institution in this Presidency, one so intimately connected with the great name of Schwartz. He congratulated them on the success they had achieved in the past and heartily hoped they would ever increase in prosperity.

THE SCHWARTZ CHURCH.

Their Excellencies went from the College to the Schwartz Church wherein the little girls standing in various rows gaily dressed, welcomed Their Excellencies. The following account of the Schwartz Church, Tanjore, by the Rev. W. H. Blake will be read with interest:—

This Church was built in 1779 by the Rev. C. F. Schwartz, Missionary of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. It was intended more



especially for the use of the English garrison. The foundation stone was laid by General Munro on 10th March 1779. Schwartz had great difficulty in raising funds for its erection. It was only after he was able to obtain from the Company a grant of bricks and lime, in consideration of his mission to Hyder Ali, that he was able to carry on the work vigorously and complete it. It was opened in April 1780, and dedicated as "Christ's Church." Soon after its completion, owing to the severe famine caused by the devastations of Hyder Ali's invasion, it was used as a granary, as Schwartz was entrusted by Rajah Tuljajee with the storing up of grain for distribution to the poor. In 1799, after the accession of Surfojee, the British garrison was removed from the place. But services in English and Tamil still continued to be held in the Church. In 1826, the Church, with the other properties and mission work of the S.P.C.K. in the Presidency, was transferred to the S.P.G. Bishop Heber at his visit the same year reports that the bad state of repair of the Church prevented its being used for services, and advises the removal of the vaulted roof and the substitution of a tiled one. The repairs were undertaken by the Rajah Surfojee, and completed in 1830, and the Church was again used for services for the English residents of the place up to Whitsunday, 1833. At the present time it is only used once a year, for a service for the Tamil congregation on New Year's Day. The Church was consecrated by Bishop Spencer on the 1st February 1845.

The monument by Flaxman to the Rev. C. F. Schwartz was sent out in answer to a letter from Rajah Surfojee, written by his own hand, in English, in May 1801, to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge requesting them to "order on his account" a "monument of marble," to perpetuate the memory of the late Rev. Schwartz, which might be "fixed to the pillar that is next to the pulpit from which he preached." The pillars are about 2 cubits broad. After receiving the monument, the Rajah was so pleased with it, that he kept it for two years in the palace with the portrait of his ancestors, before allowing it to be put in the Church. It is not historically quite accurate. Surfojee, at the time of Schwartz' death, was only a young man of about 20 years of age, and he was not proclaimed Rajah till the 28th June subsequently. His last visit to Schwartz appears to have been paid on 23rd November 1797 during Schwartz' first illness; but he afterwards came to see the body before the funeral. The clergyman standing by the side of the bed is Guericke, who, at that time, was stationed as S.P.C.K. missionary at Vepery, and also had been Surfojee's guardian and tutor while in Madras. He was with Schwartz at his death. The three children are some of those belonging to the Orphan School.

AT THE BRIHADISWARASWAMI TEMPLE.

In the evening Their Excellencies saw the famous Hindu temple in Tanjore. They were received at



the entrance of the east gate by Mr. R. Vasudeva Rao, the temple Manager. The dwarapalakas, the inscriptions, the famous monolithic bull in the centre, the prakaram with artistic works, the carvings in the Subramaniaswamy pagoda, the European figure at the gopuram, the big gopuram whose shade is said never to fall and the vahanams gave Their Excellencies an idea of one of the oldest Hindu temples well known for its inscriptions. Their Excellencies stopped in the decorated pandal for a minute to receive the respects of the agent of the Senior Ranee Sahiba, Her Highness Matusri Jejamba Boyee Sahiba. The party left by the east gate amidst the strains of "God Save the King," for Vallam. The following account of this temple will be found interesting :—

The great temple at Tanjore is dedicated to Brihadiswara (the Great Lord). "The great pagoda there was commenced on a well-defined and stately plan which was persevered in till its completion."—*Ferguson.*

The court-yard is about 500 feet long and about 250 feet broad. The great gopura (tower) over the shrine is variously computed at 190 feet, 199 feet and 205 feet high. In front of the porch is the mandapam of the Nandi. This great image, representing the bull, the Vahana of Siva, measures 16 feet long by 12 feet high and 7 feet across. It is composed of a single block of stone, probably granite. Within the enclosure is the temple of Subramanya, "as exquisite a piece of decorative

architecture as is to be found in the south of India It is built behind an older shrine, which may be coeval with the great temple as originally designed." It is a century, or two centuries more modern than the great temple. Mr. Ferguson writes:—"One of the peculiarities of the Tanjore temple is that all the sculptures on the gopuras belong to the religion of the Vishnu, while everything in the court-yard is dedicated to the worship of Siva." He thinks that this is "an instance of the extreme tolerance that prevailed at the age at which it was erected before these religions became antagonistic." The temple was surrounded by a fort The temple itself belongs to the eleventh century, and must be considered as the grandest architectural achievements of the Cholas. The base of the temple is covered with inscriptions. The sikhara (dome) of the great gopura is said to be composed of a single block of granite $25\frac{1}{2}$ feet square. It is said to have been placed in position by means of an inclined plane which commenced from the village of Sarappallam, 4 miles north-east of the town.—Sewell's *Antiquities of Madras*, Vol. I, page 277.

"Tanjore is known as Chola Désa. The inscriptions of Asoka verify the existence of the Cholas in B.C. 250. The Cholas rose to great power in the middle of the eleventh century A.D. Rajendra Koola Junga Chola (1064 to 1113) conquered the Pallavas and the Pandians. About the thirteenth century, the Cholas lost their northern possessions,



which were seized by the Ganapatees or (Gajapatees) of Orungal. These were conquered by the Muhammadans in the fourteenth century. Then came the kingdom of Vijayanagara which ruled all the country to the south of the Krishna. In 1487 Narasimha of Vijayanagar ruled over the Pandyan and Chola countries. In 1564 the Muhammadans swept over Vijayanagara, but the Madura Naiks, late Viceroys of Vijayanagar, became the rulers of the Pandya Désa, and the Naiks of Tanjore ruled the Chola Désa. In 1674 the Mahrattas established themselves at Tanjore. The English settled in Madras in 1639 and obtained the Chola Désa from the Mahrattas in the eighteenth century. On the gopuram of the Brahadeeswara pagoda, on its northern side are carved four figures, apparently showing the Cholas, the Naiks, the Mahrattas and European. Traditions say that the builder of the tower was an inspired workman from Conjeeveram, and he predicted and carved these images to show the prospective rulers of the Chola Désa. The great Nandi in the middle of the pagoda is admired on all sides, and has extorted the admiration of all nations. He is placed in a mandapam or porch, the pillars of which contain carvings of such architectural beauty that they may be said to be superior to the Nandi."

The thoroughfares were very crowded with large number of spectators anxious to have a look at Their Excellencies. The Police preserved excellent order.

A RECEPTION AT TANJORE.

TANJORE, 26th Feb.—Their Excellencies were entertained at a private dinner last night by Mr. J. Andrew, the Collector, at his residence at Vallam. After dinner the Governor held a levée and a reception at which the leading officials and non-officials of the district were presented to him. Later in the night the Reception Committee received Their Excellencies under a magnificent pandal erected on the tank bund in the Collector's compound and presented the Governor with the following address:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Members of the Reception Committee on behalf of the public of Tanjore, beg to cordially welcome Your Excellency and Lady Amphill to this, our ancient city. Tanjore possesses a historic fame as having been once the seat of several ancient dynasties, the Cholas, the Naiks and the Mahrattas. Its large temple with its beautiful tower and its huge monolith bull, the Sivaganga Fort with the old Danish Church built by the Great Missionary, Schwartz, and the palace with its library and other objects of antiquity, will not, we hope, fail to interest Your Excellency and Lady Amphill.

2. Ever since Your Excellency's assumption of your exalted office, Your Excellency has evinced a deep solicitude for the welfare of the teeming millions forming the agricultural population of this Presidency; and it is a matter of peculiar satisfaction to us that Your Excellency has, in the course of

your tours, been pleased to allow free access to ryots, to accord a sympathetic hearing to their representations, and to give prompt redress so far as practicable.

3. The District of Tanjore, as Your Excellency is aware, is mainly an agricultural one, and it contributes the largest share of the land revenue of the Presidency. It has, therefore, we submit, a special claim on Government for liberal treatment in matters affecting its agricultural prosperity, amongst which might prominently be mentioned the extension of irrigation, prevention of breaches and efficient provision for drainage.

4. In this connection we may be permitted to express our hope that substantial results will follow from the labours of the irrigation commission ; and we also rejoice that, close upon the sittings of the commission, comes Your Excellency's visit to this district, with a view to study, on the spot, the existing system of irrigation and its requirements, and thereby facilitate the solution of the various problems in connection therewith, that may come up before Your Excellency.

5. We are also happy to see that the important subject of the establishment of agricultural banks is receiving a great deal of attention at the hands of Government. We are sincerely thankful to the Government for its deputation of the Hon'ble Mr. Nicholson, who has thrown his heart and soul into the noble work, to investigate the question, and to report on the feasibility of introducing the



useful institution in question into this country, and we are in hopes that the measures now being taken in the matter will end in practical good to the agricultural population of this Presidency.

6. We need hardly say that another question calling for the earnest attention of Government is that of so adjusting the kistbandi as to enable the ryot to pay his dues after he realizes his crop, without putting him as at present to the necessity of either borrowing money at usurious rates of interest on the hypothecation of his crops, or selling them at great loss in order to meet the Government demand. We are aware that Government has anxiously considered this question many a time, but apparently has been unable as yet to arrive at a solution which may be considered satisfactory. We trust, however, that it may be found possible to adopt a better system than the existing one, which is found in practice to cause much hardship to the land-owning ryot.

7. This district, we believe, stands alone in all India in the matter of a local body undertaking the construction and maintenance of a railway. We are glad to find that the novel enterprise has been crowned with complete success; and we hope that the extension, which has been taken in hand, will soon be an accomplished fact by the removal of the legal difficulties which are believed to exist at present in the way of public bodies investing their funds in railway debentures.



8. In conclusion we beg once more to loyally welcome Your Excellency and Lady Amphill to our district and pray for Your Excellencies' long life and prosperity.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

GENTLEMEN OF THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE,—Lady Amphill and I are heartily grateful to you and to the public of Tanjore, whom you represent, for the welcome which you have given us, and we are fully convinced of its cordiality by the beautiful and artistic decoration of your town in honour of our visit, as well as by words of your address. We have already derived great enjoyment from our visit to some of those interesting monuments of historic fame of your ancient city to which you refer, and we shall treasure up the sight of the temple, which is described by Ferguson as “as exquisite a piece of decorative architecture as is to be found in Southern India.” The legendary origin of your city seems to me to have had a prophetic significance, for it was connected with the overthrow of a giant. May not that act be considered as a forerunner of later difficulties boldly overcome, and as emblematical of vigorous life and enterprise which have so long characterised the people of Tanjore, whether it was exemplified in the battles of conflicting dynasties, in the building of stately palaces and temples, or in the fostering of arts and sciences.

Nor has the spirit of the place lost its influence over the present dwellers in Tanjore, for that same



energy and enterprise has found a scope thoroughly consonant with modern ideas in the construction of your District Board Railway. You may well be proud of the success which you have achieved in that undertaking, and in having set an example which, I am glad, is being followed in other parts of India and of this Presidency. I am particularly glad to have this opportunity of congratulating you on this important development of municipal enterprise which you originated and carried out, and I hope that the financial arrangements which the Local Government has now negotiated with the Government of India, are satisfactory to you.

You refer in a very kind manner to the interviews which I have had with the ryots in some parts of the Presidency, and I dare say that you will not take it amiss if I seize this opportunity of explaining the objects with which I had these interviews, and removing some existing misapprehensions. My main object in seeing the ryot and conversing with him, so far as is possible without a knowledge of the vernaculars, is to make his acquaintance and see for myself what manner of man he is; for he is generally regarded as the backbone and most important factor in the people of India. It is not part of my duty, and it is obviously impossible for me, to make a full enquiry into minor local grievances and personally redress them. That is the duty of the District Officer, and if I were to interfere with him, I should be making as grave a mistake as a General who undertook the drilling of a squad of recruits,



or an Engineer who rivetted bolts or took part in the manual labour of digging. No, my object in hearing anything and everything that the ryots have to say, is to gain some personal knowledge of their ideas, their hopes, their fears and their aspirations, and to see how they are affected by the work of the District Officer, just as a General sees occasionally how the recruits are getting on, and the Engineer inspects the workmen who are carrying out the manual work of his design. I cannot, here and there, wherever I chance to go, direct the repair of some small tank bund, the construction of a village road or the concession of small forest privileges. That I must leave to those who are on the spot and have full local knowledge as well as the duty of seeing to such minor matters of administration. At the same time I have, as you kindly acknowledge, been enabled by the information thus gained, to effect the redress of some more general grievances, and I shall hope to gain further experience from interviews I am about to have with the ryots of this district.

I believe, though I have not verified my information, that you are not quite correct in saying that Tanjore contributes the largest share of the Land Revenue in the Presidency. I fancy that both Gódvári and Kistna make larger contributions, but this I admit does not affect your contention that you have a special claim on the Government for liberal treatment in matters affecting your agricultural prosperity. The Government has admitted that claim and has been engaged in constant consideration of the

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means of satisfying it. Hitherto, the chief obstacle to the execution of approved projects has been the lack of funds; but I hope, with you, that the recommendations of the Irrigation Commission and our own representations to the Government of India will secure for us a liberal allotment, which we are anxious to devote to the execution and further investigation of irrigation, flood preventive, and drainage, works in this district.

I hope you do not really entertain the notion that I have come down here to make a personal study of the irrigation schemes on the spot. That is neither my duty nor within my competence. It is the work of the Engineer and Revenue experts. There is much misapprehension as to the purpose and scope of the tours of the Viceroys and Governors. Some think that tours are for the purpose of redressing grievances and distributing special favours, others imagine that they are for the purpose of studying, on the spot, in a few days to which their duration must necessarily be limited, questions which take up the whole time of experts for months and years together; others again believe them to be merely pleasure trips. They are for none of these purposes. I need hardly point out to you the obvious absurdity of the first two theories, and although there is much that is interesting and delightful in touring, no one who has the least acquaintance with the anxieties, fatigues and strain of a Governor's tour would describe it as a rest or a holiday. No, the object of a Governor's tour, and



it is in itself a most important and useful object, is to get a general idea of the people and places with whose interests and affairs he has to deal. The study of big questions such as revenue settlement or irrigation projects cannot be undertaken by the head of the administration in the course of hurried travels and ceaseless functions. His work must be done in the quiet and retirement of his office, and consists not in field investigations, but in the laborious examination and comparison of information which has been collected and arranged by numerous experts and in thus forming an opinion on which he bases his final decisions. It is often a valuable help to have merely seen a place or people concerned, but it is obvious that Governors, being merely human, cannot do for themselves in a few hours or days that which takes those who are appointed to do it for them, the best part of their lives. I trust you will pardon this digression which, although it was suggested by a sentence in your address, is not intended so much for you as for the information of those who have elsewhere fostered misunderstandings to which I have referred.

The question of the establishment of Agricultural Banks has, as you say, been receiving a great deal of attention at the hands of Government, and I think that the Hon'ble Mr. Nicholson has well deserved the appreciation of his labours which you express. We have not yet arrived at a final decision as to what practical steps are to be taken; but I may tell you that we should feel more confident of the success

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if more practical initiative were exhibited by native communities and their leaders. I am not without hope that in a district like Tanjore this hint will not be like seed falling on barren ground.

There is one other matter referred to in your address to which I have not yet replied and that is the adjustment of the *kistbandi* so as to enable the ryot to pay his dues after he realizes his crop. This question was very carefully considered by the Government in 1896. Before that date the *kistbandi* in this district was so elaborate that it used to be said that the only person who could tell the ryot when his instalment was due or what his instalment was, was the karnam of the village. The objects which the Government kept in view in revising the *kistbandi* in other districts of the Presidency were that the ryot should be allowed to get in enough of his harvest to pay his *kist* before the demand was made, to ensure the utmost simplicity, so that the ryot might know, without being dependent on the karnam, how much he had to pay and when he had to pay it, and that the Revenue establishment might secure the collection with the least trouble and friction, and as much within the fiscal year as possible. Accordingly a system of four equal *kists* was devised and this was generally found to have worked well. This system was, therefore, applied to Tanjore. Enquiries made in 1896 showed that there was a great diversity of opinion on the subject, and the Collector tells me that his enquiries show that even now there is not agreement as to how

objections taken to the present system could be remedied. I notice that you yourselves do not make any suggestion on the point, and until there is a greater consensus of opinion in the district, the Government cannot undertake to alter a system which seems to be as simple and suitable as any that can be devised.

In conclusion, allow me to thank you again very heartily for the reiterated welcome and for your kind expressions of good will towards Lady Amphill and myself.

Their Excellencies then witnessed a grand display of fire-works.

AT TANJORE.

VALLAM, 26th Feb.—Early in the morning, to day, His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Mr. J. Andrew, Mr. L. M. Wynch and Captain Fife, left the Collector's house for an inspection of the country and the system of cultivation that is carried on around the village of Vallam. Hundreds of villagers who had heard of His Excellency's desire to see them and have a talk with them in regard to their affairs, mustered to follow him and show him over their fields. His Excellency walked along the bunds of the cultivated fields where the ryots were engaged in reaping the crops and gathering them into heaps.

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INTERVIEW WITH RYOTS.

After making a few enquiries as to the nature and the quantity of the produce the ryots had this season, His Excellency moved on to a threshing floor situated in the middle of the paddy fields. Here, His Excellency was enabled to form an idea of the process by which the sheaves, after being made into bundles, are threshed on the floor to separate the paddy from the straw. He also saw the cattle treading out the corn—a survival from the earliest times. He also saw how the straw was heaped into a stack for use as fodder for the agricultural cattle.

Accompanied by the ryots, His Excellency and party walked to the top of an adjacent mound, whence he had an excellent view of the surrounding fields in which crops of varagu, dhol, and other varieties of dry cultivation stood. His Excellency asked a few representative ryots to explain to him any wants which they might have, as affecting the ryots of the locality in general. He explained to them that his object in coming there was to see them at their own places and to ascertain what the ryots thought about things in general. Thereupon, a Brahman land-owner represented to His Excellency, as a case of great hardship, that his lands had been assessed wet though the Government had done nothing to offer to him irrigational facilities of any sort. He had a small tank of his own which he kept in repair at his own expense, with which he was able to irrigate the small acreage under it. For two or three months in



the year, when there was rain, there was water available in the tank for cultivation, and owing to rain in the last two months he was able to raise a crop of varagu on his land. Another ryot complained that the Union house tax had recently been enhanced and was felt as a great hardship by the poor residents of the place. The other wants represented to His Excellency by the ryots assembled were chiefly for facilities in the shape of river channels to bring water to their dry fields. Some of these channels have long been in existence, but during the last decade or so have been silted up and have fallen into such a state of disrepair that they are useless for all practical purposes. It would appear that the ryots owing to want of co-operation amongst themselves in clearing the channels of the periodical influx of silt under the kudimaramuth system, had themselves contributed to the present undesirable state of things. The evil has assumed such serious proportions now that they are not able to carry out the extensive clearing which will be necessary, without the help of the Government.

A third ryot, who was a village munsiff in the place, said in a tone of despair that the seasons had been very unfavourable during the last five years, with the result that the ryots had to give up their lands which were purchased by Government at nominal prices in public auction for arrears of revenue, so that, he said, many fields were lying waste at the present moment, and the little cultivation that was now going on was due to the recent timely

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rains. He was glad and very thankful to His Excellency for his visit to their parts and his solicitous enquiry into their condition. He further represented that such visits were encouraging to them and enabled them to explain their wants in person to him in addition to their representations through the regular official channels which were always open to them, but which did not always secure to them what they wanted, without long delays.

His Excellency then returned to the Collector's residence for breakfast.

THE TANJORE FUND.

At 1-30 P.M. to-day a deputation of the Directors of the Tanjore Hindu Permanent Fund waited upon His Excellency at the Collector's house with the object of making certain representations in regard to how best the Government might help them in carrying on the operations of their fund to the mutual advantage of themselves and the ryot population of the district. The deputation, having been formally introduced to His Excellency by the Collector, proceeded to state their case. The spokesman of the deputation represented to His Excellency that at present when a ryot applied for a loan from the fund on the security of his land, he had to satisfy the fund that the land was free of prior encumbrances, and to do this he had to produce a certificate from the Registration Department of the Government. This involved the payment of fees which might amount to Rs. 20. The



fee was Rs. 2 for the first year of records searched through and 8 annas for every additional year. The registration records dated back to 1865, and it was necessary generally to make a general search, as the Directors could not be satisfied with the borrower's *ipse dixit* that his land was unencumbered. This was a heavy additional liability to be incurred by the ryot before he could obtain the loan he desired. The abolition of these search fees would lessen the expenses incidental to obtaining a loan from the fund. He suggested that an officer of the fund might be allowed to make the search without any charge or that at any rate the fee as a special case might be, Re. 1 only, as is the case when loans are taken from Government under the Loan Acts. The Directors of the fund have already made representations to the Inspector-General of Registration on the subject, but have not yet received an answer. They also sought an interview with the Hon'ble Mr. Nicholson for a discussion of the question with him, and he has promised to meet their wishes in April next. His Excellency promised to speak to the Hon'ble Mr. Srinivasa Raghava Aiyangar, Inspector-General of Registration, on the subject.

With regard to the scope of the operation of the fund, the deputation explained that theirs being a Co-operative Society, advances of loans were limited to registered subscribers. Thirty-five agriculturists had applied for loans. This number would have been larger if the disabilities pointed out above had not

been in existence. The grant of loans was not limited to any particular class. The sums applied for in the majority of cases were from Rs. 25 to Rs. 100. The loans were taken in the case of the agriculturist for payment of kist, purchase of cattle, seeds, etc., and also for repayment of moneys already borrowed to meet *kists* before money could be realised from the harvest of crops. The fund generally lent on the security of moveable and immoveable property and not on personal security. Loans were not applied for the purpose of sinking wells, for there were not many ryots sinking wells in the district.

His Excellency observed that his short experience of the ryot of this country was that when he went to borrow money, it was generally for weddings, and he enquired if their experience was similar.

The spokesman replied that the operations of the fund had been begun only a few months ago, and the marriage season not having arrived yet, he was not in a position to speak one way or the other. The fund, however, did not limit the grant of loans to any particular purpose, but granted them for any purpose. He thought it would of course be a great boon if the agriculturists did not spend too much on marriages, etc. Many had no jewels to pledge and had, therefore, to raise money on the security of lands. Their association levied an interest of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in ordinary cases, but where the amount of the loan applied for was in excess of Rs. 50



per share held by the borrower, $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was charged. They had not yet had occasion to recover loans by legal processes. The existence of the fund and its advantages were made known through their members as well as by the borrowers themselves. The fund was registering 300 or 400 applications for membership a month. The capital was divided into shares of Rs. 45 each payable at the rate of one rupee a month. At the end of 45 months a subscriber was entitled to receive Rs. 50, *i.e.*, the value of the subscriptions *plus* interest at the rate of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. or one pie per rupee per mensem.

The deputation next begged that their fund might be permitted to lodge their safe containing jewels and cash in the Government Treasury. His Excellency, after consulting the Collector, promised to consider their request on his return to Madras. A further request submitted for His Excellency's consideration was for power to sell land or other immoveable property mortgaged to the fund, when necessary. Such power was exercised by similar funds in the Presidency town, whereas in the mofussil this had to be done through the Civil Courts, with all the inconveniences attendant on the Law's proverbial delays, Court fees, Vakils' fees, batta for witnesses, etc.,—all which combined to deter the fund from advancing loans freely. Exemption from stamp fees and registration fees in regard to the loan transactions with the fund was next prayed for, and in this connection the deputation represented

that, as in the Presidency town, they might be allowed to advance loans on the security of title-deeds deposited with them, which would obviate the necessity for stamp fees and registration fees, etc. The registers of public bodies like their fund were open to inspection, and the above concession could not, therefore, be utilised for fraudulent purposes, as they could be by private individuals.

They said they would be very grateful if the village officers were asked by a Government order to give all the assistance in their power, to the Surveyors and Inspectors of the fund in the examination and valuation of lands, etc., on the security of which loans were applied for.

In reply to questions from His Excellency, the deputation explained to him the present working of their fund, and the method adopted for collection of shares, etc., and told him that the chief difficulty in extending their loan transactions to rural parts lay in finding trustworthy agents. They had no special staff or machinery for valuing the securities of ryots and other applicants for loans. This was done by a few subscribers specially deputed, who made local enquiries and submitted a report, and were granted a small honorarium in return for their services.

In dismissing the deputation, His Excellency told them that he was very glad to have seen them and thanked them for all the information which they had given him.



NEGAPATAM, 27th Feb.—Yesterday evening their Excellencies Lord and Lady Ampthill were entertained at a Garden Party at Mr. and Mrs. Andrew's residence, at Vallam, at which a number of the leading Native and European residents of Tanjore were present. An interesting programme of amusements was provided. After dinner at the Collector's, the Governor and party left Vallam, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew, and drove to the Gravel Quarry siding, at Pillayaipatti, where a special train was waiting for them. Mr. H. Davies, Traffic Manager, and Mr. Creighton, Locomotive Superintendent, who were in charge of the train, met Their Excellencies here and conducted them to their saloons, in which they slept, the train leaving for Negapatam at daybreak.

AT NEGAPATAM.

Negapatam, the "Snake City," one of the oldest towns on the East Coast, was reached at 8 A.M. Here His Excellency was met on the platform by the principal residents of the town with the Municipal Council at their head with an Address of Welcome. The South Indian Railway Volunteers, 100 rank and file, furnished the Guard of Honour, under the Command of Captain Ross Logan, and presented arms as Their Excellencies alighted. After the inspection of the guard, Mr. F. D. Oldfield, the Sub-Collector, introduced to His Excellency a few of the principal residents and then conducted Their Excellencies to seats placed under a pretty



pandal made entirely of oleander blossoms. Mr. C. R. Kunchitapadam Iyer, the Chairman of the Municipality, read the following Address of Welcome :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Municipal Council of Negapatam, respectfully beg to approach Your Excellency on the occasion of your first visit to this town, and to offer to you and Lady Ampthill a most cordial welcome.

Ever since Your Excellency assumed the direction of affairs in this Presidency, it has been evident to all that you had the welfare of the people, and the furtherance of all that tends to the improvement of their condition, entirely at heart. You have sought to discover the needs of even the poorest of His Majesty's subjects, and we are glad to have this opportunity of expressing our gratitude, and of assuring you that these manifestations of sympathy have given you a very warm place in the hearts of the people of this town.

From time to time we have brought to the notice of Government, the urgent need that there is of a proper water-supply, and of some system of drainage in this town. From the year 1886 onwards, various schemes for a water-supply have been under consideration; but up to the present time no definite conclusion has been reached. It has been said by the Sanitary Engineer to Government that no complete scheme can be carried out without an expenditure of 8 lakhs of rupees, with annual charges, roughly speaking, of Rs. 45,000. We regretfully beg to point out to Your Excellency that such a large



amount would be entirely beyond the power of this municipality to bear as an annual charge upon its funds. The total revenues of the municipality amount to about Rs. 75,000 annually, and we cannot but think, therefore, that such a large additional burden would prove altogether too heavy to be borne. It is apparent from the fact that scheme after scheme has been proposed, only to be found impracticable upon investigation, that the case of Negapatam is an especially difficult one. In view of the special difficulties of the case, as well as of the importance of guarding the health of Negapatam, as a port from which there is a constant stream of emigration, we beg to request Your Excellency that special consideration may be extended to this town. In preferring this request we would also ask that the matter may be pushed on with all possible expedition, and some definite conclusion arrived at.

In conclusion we beg to express to Your Excellencies our very sincere thanks for your kindness in paying a visit to this town. We trust that during your further term of office you may be spared in health to carry out your arduous duties and that much happiness and prosperity may, under the blessing of God, attend you and Lady Ampthill.

His Excellency briefly replied as follows:—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, NEGAPATAM,—I thank you sincerely on behalf of Lady Ampthill and myself for your cordial welcome and your presence here to receive us. You are right in saying we have the welfare of the people

in this Presidency entirely at heart. I should be unworthy of my position and great trust confided to me by our late beloved Queen if I were not wholly devoted to my duties and responsibilities. At the same time it is a great encouragement to me to have received from you, as well as from the people of Tanjore, so generous an appreciation of my endeavour to fulfil my duty. I believe that I am right in thinking that throughout all the length and breadth of India, various peoples and communities are never wanting in grateful recognition of the efforts of those responsible for administration, and it is this kindly trait which inspires my countrymen, almost without exception, to devote themselves with a whole heart and their utmost energy to their duties, and which enables them to take back to England and their own kindred, an undying affection for India and its people.

I am sorry to hear of your difficulties with regard to a proper water-supply and a system of drainage,—difficulties which I fear are common to many other cities in this Presidency. The question is one in which I am particularly interested, and which I should indeed be glad to see solved in every case. Nothing is more important to the general health and well-being of the people than proper sanitation, and pure water and adequate drainage are essential conditions to this end. The difficulty of securing a water-supply is, in some cases, due to natural obstacles, and in most cases to absence of funds. You seem unfortunately to suffer from both



of these difficulties, and I wish that I could see a clear way of helping you out of either or both of them. The present position is that further experimental pumping is necessary and that funds for this purpose have to be found. The reports of the departments concerned have not yet come before me, but I hope when they do, that they will afford in the first instance some practical solution of the initial difficulty of finding a water-supply which can be made available. I am unable to say whether or not you are entitled to special consideration until I have had an opportunity of comparing your claims with those of other towns, which cannot be done in the absence of a complete and satisfactory scheme; but I readily accede to your request that the matter should be pushed on with all possible expedition, and I shall take steps accordingly. In thanking you once more for the kind wishes with which you have added to the pleasure of our visit to Negapatam, let me assure you that my greatest possible happiness would be if my labours resulted in some good to the people of Madras.

From the station Their Excellencies proceeded to the Railway Workshops, where some of the employers met them at the main entrance and garlanded them. Mr. Creighton took them through the various departments, and explained the mechanism of some of the most interesting machinery. From the workshops Their Excellencies went to the old Dutch Church, which is a relic of Dutch connection with the town in centuries gone by. The party

then drove to Mr. Creighton's residence at Kadam-bady, where they stay during their brief visit to this flourishing town.

In the afternoon His Excellency accorded a few private interviews and in the evening held a Levée in a big pandal.

THE CITIZENS' ADDRESS.

The Citizens of Negapatam then read the following Address :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Citizens of Negapatam and its suburbs, beg to convey to Your Excellency the expression of our pleasure at the visit of yourself and Her Ladyship to this town, and to offer you a most loyal and cordial welcome as the representative of our august and beloved Sovereign. We also gratefully recognize Your Excellency's own many sterling qualities, and your assiduous devotion to the welfare of the people committed to your charge, which embolden us to lay before you the following points of local interest :—

2. This port suffers severely from the silting up of the mouth of the river in the south-west monsoon. Experiments were made last year which were to some extent successful in keeping the bar open for boats with cargo. We earnestly hope Your Excellency's visit will result in a continuance of these experiments until a permanent method may be found to help us in this most important direction.

3. Negapatam is an important commercial place. We would respectfully urge upon Your Excellency's

attention the desirability of establishing at this station a Government School of Commerce upon the model of the existing institution at Calicut. It will meet the requirements of the trading classes in this as well as the adjoining districts by training up pupils in all branches of commercial knowledge. We brought this matter to the notice of Your Excellency's predecessor on the occasion of his visit to this town in August 1898. And we crave permission to repeat our request in the hope that Your Excellency will give the matter your favourable consideration.

4. Another subject which immediately concerns the health of this town is the necessity of relieving the present congested parts by the opening up of all available building sites. There is a large rural area available for the purpose along the sea shore at the southern end of the town beyond the Uppanar river. In the absence of a bridge over this river, it has not been found practicable to extend the town in this direction. The river is now provided with a ferry whose proceeds are being shared equally between the municipality and the local board. It is desirable that these authorities should take joint action in providing the river with a bridge. A loan may be raised by these authorities upon the security of their general revenue, and the construction made with a subsidy from Government if necessary. A small toll may also be levied after the completion of the bridge for its use by vehicles. This matter was also brought by us to the notice of Your Excellency's predecessor on the occasion of his visit. We venture

to express a hope that Your Excellency will be pleased to call the attention of the local authorities in view to practical action being taken in the matter.

5. In conclusion we beg to express our most cordial wishes for the long life, health and happiness of Lady Ampthill and Your Excellency.

His Excellency replied as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I have received with great pleasure the assurance of your loyalty and devotion to His Majesty the King-Emperor which is expressed in the kind words of welcome and the cordial reception which you have given to me as his representative. As regards your too flattering remarks on myself, I can only say, as I have said elsewhere, that I am greatly encouraged by your good opinion which I hope to merit when my term of office is over. At present I have much to learn and much to do, and I shall need all the health which you are good enough to wish me if I am to carry out to my own satisfaction all the duties that lie before me. I can well understand the difficulty which you experience in dealing with the shoaling of the river, for many similar cases have come before me, and I have a constant example before my eyes in the river Cooum at Madras. You were very unlucky in that the experimental timber groyne which was proving successful was breached by heavy seas in 1897, and I hope that the recent experiments will enable your Engineer to devise a permanent protection. I have not got sufficient information to know whether a continuance of the experiments is necessary, and I



am therefore unable to make you any promise in this respect. I am, however, about to visit the harbour this afternoon and hope to glean a good deal of information on the spot from the Port Officer and the members of the Harbour Committee.

I shall be glad to consider your request that a Government School of Commerce should be established here on the model of the admirable institution which I had the pleasure of visiting at Calicut. The whole question of education in all its branches is now, as you are aware, receiving the fullest consideration at the hands of the Government of India and the Provincial Governments. Until the recommendations of the Simla Conference have been fully discussed and the various subsidiary enquiries to which that conference has given rise have resulted in the proposition of definite schemes, it would be premature for me to give any undertaking with regard to your particular request. I can only suggest that, if you have not already done so, you should lay before Government, through the ordinary official channels, such information as will facilitate a full consideration of your wishes.

Lastly, you say that, in order to open up new building sites and so relieve the congested parts of the town, it is desirable to substitute a bridge for the existing ferry over the Uppanar river, and you ask me to call the attention of the local authorities to the matter. I have acquainted myself with the past history of the question, and I regret that I cannot hold out hopes of financial assistance from

Government. The question is purely municipal, but inasmuch as the present ferry receipts are shared between the Municipal Council and the Local Fund Board, it seems to me that the Council might fairly ask the Local Fund Board to come to its assistance as you suggest. You ask me to be your intermediary, but I cannot help thinking that you would do better to approach your own representatives yourselves.

Lady Ampthill and I thank you very gratefully for your cordial welcome as evidenced in the charming decoration of your town, this magnificent pandal which you have erected for our reception and in the kind wishes with which you have concluded your Address.

Their Excellencies and the Members of the Reception Committee and the District officers were then photographed.

THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the Collector and the Private Secretary, then drove round the town of Negapatam, the streets of which were decorated with flags, bunting and venetian posts and spanned with triumphal arches bearing inscriptions expressive of the townspeople's wants as well as their deep loyalty. During the drive round the town, His Excellency paid a visit to the Municipal General Hospital, a neat little institution largely resorted to and much appreciated by the people. After inspecting the building His Excellency recorded his favourable opinion in the visitors' book



thus :—" I am glad to have seen this little hospital. The wards are very clean and airy. I am glad to see that the walls have been ornamented with cheerful pictures. The principal need seems to be an operation room." Her Excellency Lady Ampthill, who accompanied the Governor, inspected the female ward in the hospital, and expressed herself much satisfied with its condition.

THE NEGAPATAM HARBOUR.

Negapatam has long been handicapped by the want of a proper harbour and this has always been a subject referred to in the Addresses presented by the citizens of Negapatam to successive Governors on the occasion of their visits to the town. The Address presented to Lord Ampthill also made prominent mention of the fact that the port suffered severely from the silting up of the mouth of the river in the south-west monsoon, and prayed that steps might be taken to keep the bar open for boats with cargo. As promised in his reply to the citizens' Address, His Excellency visited the port late in the evening and discussed the question of its improvement with Captain G. B. Simpson, the Port Officer, and Mr. Chapman of the Madura Company, who is also the local agent of the British India Steam Navigation Company, and with the members of the Harbour Committee. Captain Simpson, who takes an active interest in the improvement of the harbour, and who has a thorough knowledge of the wants of the local mercantile community, explained to His



AN ENTERTAINMENT.

At night, after a station dinner given by the Members of the Negapatam Club, Their Excellencies were taken in procession, preceded by native music, to the spacious and tastefully decorated pandal erected by the Reception Committee. The Members

of the Reception Committee, headed by Mr. W. Taylor, their President, conducted them to seats on the platform and garlanded them. Then a programme of music and other amusements was gone through. A splendid display of fireworks terminated the proceedings.

DEPARTURE FROM NEGAPATAM.

28th Feb.—At 7 A.M. to-day Their Excellencies and party left Negapatam for Tranquebar. They halted for a few minutes at Nagore to visit the famous Durga of the Muhammadan saint, popularly known as “Meera Saib.” Here the party was met at the entrance by the Trustees of the Durga and conducted into the interior, where they were garlanded and shown due honours. One of the Trustees who welcomed His Excellency explained to him that the Durga was nearly 400 years old, and owed its origin to the gift of a pious ruler of the Tanjore Raj in years gone by. “Meera Saib,” the saint of Nagore, was in his days credited with extraordinary powers, and Pratab Singh, Maharaja of Tanjore, who had personal experience of these, was so struck with his piety and saintliness that he endowed the Durga with 45 villages consisting of over 5,000 acres of land, which, supplemented by the pious offerings of “crores of pilgrims” who flock to it annually from the remotest parts of the country and also from places in Arabia, have made

the Durga probably one of the richest of its kind in all India. The Durga is also only one of the kind in this country where people of all classes, castes and races, worship as brethren of the same faith. It is remarkable that there have been few misunderstandings of any sort between the worshipers at the mosque. Mainly on account of the existence of the Durga in the town, Nagore is a flourishing trading centre where several Lubbays live and carry on trade. At the beginning of the last century, Nagore was described as a populous and busy place, with a well-stocked bazaar and possessing from 30 to 40 trading vessels of considerable size. But though trade of that magnitude has long ceased to be carried on there, still it is a place of great importance in the district, and has recently been honoured with a small branch railway line.

AT KARIKAL.

Leaving Nagore, Their Excellencies resumed their journey, and about a mile from Nagore entered the small bit of French territory on this coast. After three miles drive in the territory they reached Karikal, the head-quarters of the French Administration of this division. Here Their Excellencies halted at the residence of the Administrateur which was profusely decorated in honour of their visit.

M. Prempain, the Administrateur, met Their Excellencies at the entrance and welcomed them, his Body-guard furnishing a Guard-of-Honour and presenting arms on the arrival of the distinguished



visitors. There were assembled there besides the Administrateur, Colonel Brunich, the British Consul at Pondicherry, the Rev. Father Leroy, the Principal of the French Educational Institution, the Rev. Father Durier, the Parish Priest, M. Dugand, the President of the Tribunal, M. Mosnier, Procureur de la Republique, M. Rozario, the Mayor and M. Cordier and M. Block, members of the medical profession. Their Excellencies had tea with the Administrateur, who drank to the distinguished visitors' health and made a short speech in French, thanking Their Excellencies for having stopped there on their way to Tranquebar. He offered them a hearty welcome to Karikal in the name of the French Government. His Excellency briefly responded and said that he and Lady Ampthill would not forget their visit to Karikal and the courteous manner in which they were received there. After taking leave of the Administrateur, Their Excellencies drove along the streets of Karikal, which were thronged with people and decorated with flags, and reached Tranquebar at about 9-30 A.M. after a drive in all of over 18 miles on a not altogether well-kept road, a portion of the road in the French territory being exceedingly bad. The strip of country between Negapatam and Tranquebar has been the scene of struggles for dominion in the east, among the several European nations, the Portuguese, the Dutch, the Danes, the French and the English. While other nations have disappeared altogether from India as ruling powers, only the

French hold a few places in this country which serve to remind one of their unsuccessful attempt at Empire-building in the east. To the credit of the French it has to be said that their Indian subjects, in this part of the country at least, have few grievances and are contented.

AT TRANQUEBAR.

Tranquebar was once a Danish settlement and an important port on the East Coast. A Danish Company which had been established at Copenhagen in 1612 sent out a Danish vessel which arrived on the coast of Coromandel in 1616. The Danish merchants who came to South Carnatic bought the village of Tranquebar from the Rajah of Tanjore. After over a century, during which the town continued to be in the possession of the Danes, Tranquebar was acquired by the British about the year 1845 and has continued in their possession ever since. Up to the year 1854, it was the headquarters of the Tanjore district and later continued to be the seat of the District and Sessions Court of Tanjore till 1878, when the Court was also transferred to Tanjore. Tranquebar, which is surrounded by a masonry wall, is built with remarkable neatness and regularity. It contains several old structures which are fast falling into decay. It is practically a deserted town and is occupied by a few Missionaries of the German Lutheran Mission whose Indian head-quarters is located here.

On arrival at this interesting and historic place Their Excellencies were welcomed on alighting by



Mr. T. Ratnasawmi Nadar and Mr. M. Ravi Varma Rajah, Deputy Collector, Májavaram Division. Amongst those present to accord Their Excellencies a cordial reception were—Mr. Mir Abbas Ali Sahib, Tahsildar, Májavaram, Mr. T. S. Vyidianatha Iyer, Sub-Magistrate, Messrs. V. Ponnusawmi Nadar, C. Madhava Rao, retired Tahsildar, Rev. K. Pamparian, A. Gebbring, Frolich, Schaffer, Kluge, V. Devasagayam and Bizenber, of the Lutheran German Mission, Rev. G. Yesudian of the S.P.G. Mission, and Mr. K. Vydyanatha Iyer, Secretary, Reception Committee.

The bungalow in which Their Excellencies stay for the day is built on the modern style. It faces the sea, and is a very spacious one. It is richly furnished and artistically decorated. At 3-30 P.M., the inhabitants of the Tranquebar Division waited upon His Excellency with the following Address of Welcome:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—On behalf of the inhabitants and the landholders of the Tranquebar Range of the Májavaram sub-division, we beg most respectfully to heartily welcome Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill to this ancient historic town, once called “The Queen of the Coromandel Coast” and also the seat of the Danish settlement.

2. We humbly beg to submit for Your Excellency's kind and favourable consideration, the necessity for a railway line to this important port, connecting it with the network of railways in Southern India, a subject which has engaged the attention of the

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District Board, Tanjore, and the Government for over twenty (20) years. In this connection, we earnestly entreat Your Excellency to peruse the memorial submitted by us in October 1899 and the order of Your Excellency's Government thereon in which full details are given as to the utility of, and the necessity for, such a project, and the benefits that will be derived not only by the people of north Tanjore, but also by Government, as it will open out one of the most excellent ports in Southern India. All that we beg of Your Excellency is, that Your Excellency will be graciously pleased to move the District Board of Tanjore to be good enough to take up the Májavaram-Tranquebar Light Railway as their first project, after the completion of the Avadaiyárkóvil extension of its existing line.

3. We beg also most respectfully to lay before Your Excellency the great defect in the drainage, viz., the Nandalaar, the Mahimalai-Kadalazhiyaar, the Manjalaar-Ambanaar. We also pray that the following improvement in the irrigation of the Nandalaar be made, as we have suffered year after year by breaches in the said river, and the consequent damage to crops, and even to roads, and beg most respectfully to suggest that the embankment might be improved at the weakest part and diversion made in such a way, that damages may not occur in future, which we believe can be done by having a straight cut, up to the bar.

4. In conclusion we beg to thank Your Excellency for allowing us an opportunity to approach Your

Excellency with this our humble address, and to testify our loyalty to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor and we pray that the Almighty may bless, preserve and protect Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill for years to come.

His Excellency made the following reply :—

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you on behalf of Lady Ampthill and myself for the hearty welcome which you have accorded to us, and for all that you have done to give your town this bright and holiday appearance in honour of our visit. It is a great pleasure to us to find ourselves in your ancient and picturesque city, whose name is a corruption of the old romantic Tamil designation of “Tarangambadi” the “village of the wave.” Although Tranquebar has unfortunately lost much of her former commercial importance, I fancy that her reputation for health and beauty is in no wise diminished, and you must be proud of your town in consequence of these two delightful attributes. I sympathise with your desire to restore your town to its former commercial importance by the construction of a railway, and I have carefully perused the memorial to which you refer. I am afraid that it would not be proper for me to bring pressure to bear on the District Board in the manner you suggest, but I feel confident that that enterprising and capable body of men will most carefully consider your representation and will not neglect any opportunity of improving the communications and trading facilities of the district. I understand that they have

provided in their budget for the ensuing year for the metalling of the Májavaram-Tranquebar road which will be a good step in the direction you require. The Tanjore District Board has proved its capacity in the most signal manner by setting an example to the whole of India in the matter of local railway enterprise, and I feel that you could not be in better hands. The question of drainage has, and is still, as you know, been under careful investigation, and I am informed that detailed schemes will soon be ready for submission to Government. Much will depend on the ultimate recommendations of the Irrigation Commission and still more on the amount of funds which may be available. At the present time I do not know what our position will be in either respect, and so I must beg you to rest content with the assurance that your representation will not be in any way overlooked when the time comes for deciding on the programme of irrigation and drainage works. I am glad to have had this opportunity of hearing what you have to say, and I appreciate the consideration you have shown in not asking me to go into matters of detail on this occasion. I shall, however, not fail to examine all the details connected with your representations when they come before me in the ordinary course of official business, which I think you will agree with me is the more appropriate time. I have received with much satisfaction the assurance of your loyalty to His Majesty the King-Emperor, and I thank you sincerely for the kind manner in which



you have expressed your wish for the personal welfare of Lady Ampthill and myself and also for the beautiful casket in which you have enclosed your Address, and which will always serve as a pleasant memorial of our most delightful visit to your town.

THE SIGHTS OF TRANQUEBAR.

TRANQUEBAR, *28th Feb.*—Having disposed of the business part of the programme, Their Excellencies visited the places of historic interest in the town. They first went to the old Zion Church, which was founded in 1620 A.D., when the foundation of the Fort at Tranquebar was also laid. An older church in the town is said to have been submerged by the sea in the centuries gone by, as were some Hindu temples and streets. Leaving this, Their Excellencies went to the Protestant Mission Church on the opposite side of the street and were welcomed there by the Rev. Mr. Pamperin and other Missionaries of the German Lutheran Mission. This church is the oldest Protestant Mission Church in India and was built by Ziegenbalg, the first Protestant Missionary sent out to India by the Danish Royal Mission. He arrived in Tranquebar in 1706 and built this church in 1718, and died in 1719. He was buried in the church. Rev. Mr. Pamperin thanked Their Excellencies for their visit and referred with gratitude to the protection which the members of the German Mission received at the hands of the King-Emperor's representatives in India. While

at this church His Excellency was met by Mr. Van Tylingen, who is probably the only living link connecting the present generation with the Danish Government of Tranquebar, he being the son of the last Surgeon of that Government. The interesting fact that Madame Grand, the wife of the famous French Diplomatist, Talleyrand, was born at Tranquebar, was brought to Their Excellencies notice by Mr. Van Tylingen.

From this church Their Excellencies proceeded to a very old cemetery containing tombs dating far back into the eighteenth century. Here among the tombs inspected was one of the great grandmother of the Hon'ble Mr. H. A. Sim, and another of a Danish Count whose name and dates of birth and death are not visible on the tomb now. The next place of interest visited was the inner fort, a part of the town which had been for years used as a District jail, but where now an Inspector of the Salt Department resides. It is in a very decaying condition, and but for the attention bestowed on it by the Inspector it would have been a ruin some years ago. Ziegenbalg, the Danish Missionary, was confined in this inner fort owing to his misunderstanding with the Danish Government of the day.

A LANDHOLDER'S DURBAR.

After inspecting these historical monuments His Excellency gave an audience to the landholders who had come to see him from the surrounding country. His Excellency told his small audience that he had



been seeing everybody—District officers, Missionaries and Municipal Councillors—but the only people that he had not seen as often as he would have liked were the ryots; and now that he had an opportunity of seeing them, he would like to hear from their lips what they had to say about their wants. The deputation, which consisted of over a dozen landholders, were told by His Excellency that he had not come so much to hear individual grievances of a petty character as the wants of their community as a whole in that part of the country.

IRRIGATION WANTS.

One landholder from Manikakundrai, who owned about 10 acres of land, represented that at present masonry *calingulas* were constructed on the top of dams thrown across channels and rivers, which reduced the supply of water available for irrigation below the channel. He said that the provision of screw shutters, instead of masonry *calingulas*, would enable them to store up water and conserve it better, and also to regulate the distribution more effectively. It was not an individual want, but a want felt in common by the inhabitants of ten other villages adjoining his own. He had heard that the provision of screw shutters had been sanctioned, but that for some reason or other their construction was being delayed. His Excellency next asked another landholder what extent of land he had and the outturn he realized. The ryot informed the Governor that he owned 30 acres of single-crop wet

land, and that he had realized a fairly good outturn last season, his lands having yielded a 12-anna crop. He employed two or three daily labourers under him—presumably, I believe, in addition to the permanent *kudiyals*—and was also a petty trader. Two other landholders, owning 42 and 60 acres of land, respectively, and who were also petty traders, supported the previous request for screw shutters. A fourth man, of whom His Excellency made some enquiries, was the proprietor of an *inam* village, owning as much as 940 acres of land. He represented to His Excellency that of these, 240 were wet land and 300 acres more could be cultivated with a wet crop if he had irrigational facilities. His lands were watered by a channel which flowed through French territory. Owing to its inefficient condition and the state of disrepair into which it had fallen, he was not in a position to extend his cultivation, and in this matter he sought the aid of the Government authorities.

PERIODICAL COLLECTION OF KISTS.

Yet another request preferred by a Brahman landholder from Mudikondan, who had come a distance of about 30 miles to see His Excellency, was that the *kists* might be collected from the ryots in eight instalments, as of old, instead of four as now. He pointed out the disadvantage of the existing system of payment, under which the ryots had to borrow from money-lenders at high rates of interest at a time when there was a great demand for money,

and repay it by the sale of paddy at a time when paddy was selling very cheap. Under this system, the hardworking ryot-landowner did not enjoy the fruit of his labour, the profits due to favourable fluctuations in prices, which should legitimately go to him, going to fill the pockets of the sowcar, instead. In short, this was like a merchant buying in a dear market and selling in a cheap one. His Excellency questioned him as to whether, under the old system of eight instalments, he had not to depend on the karnam for information as to what and when to pay for a particular *kist*. His Excellency put the question so as to suggest to the ryot that his proposal, far from being an advantage to him, would result in general inconvenience, as it would compel him to go to the karnam for information. The landholder, however, while admitting to some extent the inconvenience pointed out by His Excellency, was inclined to think that its advantages would counterbalance the inconveniences, and that the amount levied in four could easily be spread over eight instalments.

A TREE-TAX GRIEVANCE.

The next grievance pressed on His Excellency's attention was in the matter of the levying of tree-tax. At present it would appear that a tree-tax was levied wherever it happened to be higher than the tax on the land on which the tree stood. This system is said to work a great hardship, especially where a large number of trees is crowded on a small

plot of land, such as topes. In these cases, a ryot has to pay occasionally 15 and 20 times more than the land-tax, though in theory a tree-tax is said to be merely a substitution for land-tax.

AN AGRICULTURAL CONCESSION.

It was next represented that ryots should have the liberty of cutting *babul* trees standing on canal bunds for agricultural purposes, such as the making of ploughs, etc. This concession was at present generally refused to ryots. An official present at the interview said that such permission was granted to ryots on a formal application.

THE REVIVAL OF TRANQUEBAR.

A plea was next put forward for reviving Tranquebar. It was represented to His Excellency that, even under the British Government, Tranquebar had once been the head-quarters of the district and the seat of four or five Courts. At present, there was no Civil Court in the place, and the nearest places to which a ryot had to go for the institution of a civil suit, however small it might be in value, were Shiyáli and Máyavaram, which were about 18 miles from Tranquebar. It was therefore requested that at least a District Munsif's Court, or a Revenue Divisional office might be re-established in the town and its importance revived, its trade improved and the people indirectly benefited. The question of part field remission cropped up here again, notwithstanding the proceedings of



the Board of Revenue which have already been issued as the result of His Excellency's tours in the Chingleput, North Arcot and Cuddapah districts.

CONTROL OF RELIGIOUS ENDOWMENTS.

A Brahman landholder in the deputation told His Excellency that there were large and extensive properties and endowments attached to temples in the Tanjore district, which were not properly looked after. He thought that some action on the part of the Government was necessary, as the prosperity of the people depended, in a large measure, on the proper management of trusts devoted to religious purposes.

BETTER ROADS WANTED.

Another very important want brought to the notice of His Excellency was the provision of village roads. A deputationist suggested that annually a proportion of the income of the district boards should be set apart for the creation of new, and the improvement of existing, village roads, because their present condition made it difficult for ryots to cart their produce to the nearest markets. Owing to the absence of village roads in many places, ryots had often to sell their produce at great loss. This representation was supported by the whole of the deputation as a matter of very great importance to the village communities.

Among minor grievances represented, were the levying of penal assessment on *poramboke*

cultivation and the enhancement of house-tax in villages included in union panchayets, as also the strengthening of the bunds of the Nandalar.

His Excellency enquired if the deputation had omitted to tell him anything which they felt strongly about. He remarked that it was often said that although ryots told him certain things, they did not tell him everything they had to say. This elicited a further representation from one of the deputation that the present settlement rates were very high and that they should be lowered and made permanent.

His Excellency, in taking leave of the deputation, assured them that he was very glad to have seen them and heard from their lips all that they had to say. Notes were taken of their representations, and he promised that he would think over them all on his return to head-quarters.

After dinner Their Excellencies witnessed a display of fire-works on a small scale which the people of Tranquebar had arranged.

DEPARTURE FROM TRANQUEBAR.

Their Excellencies and party left Tranquebar at about 9-45 P.M., for Porear Road, where they took special train for Kumbakónam.

AT KUMBAKÓNAM.

KUMBAKÓNAM, 1st March.—Their Excellencies reached Kumbakónam at 7 A.M., to-day, and were



accorded a splendid reception. The arrival being public, a large number of the principal residents—official and non-official—were assembled to meet them and were introduced by Mr. Vibert, the Head Assistant Collector. Their Excellencies were then conducted to seats in the pandal and were presented with the following address of welcome by the Municipal Council, headed by Mr. T. Sivasami Wodeyar, the Chairman :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Municipal Councillors of Kumbakónam, beg to approach Your Excellency and Lady Amphthill with feelings of profound respect and loyalty and accord to you our most hearty welcome to this town. We also gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our deep devotion and loyalty to His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor.

2. Our town which is situated on the banks of the sacred Cauvery is interesting on account of its history, its sanctity and its educational activity.

3. After the destruction of the ancient Uraiyur in the seventh century, Kumbakónam became the capital of the Chola Kingdom, whose rulers, the builders of the grand anicut and the founders of the great irrigation system of the district, enriched our town with many temples and religious institutions. Further, one of the temples with its grand sculptural works and Tamil inscriptions still bears testimony to the work of one of the Nayak Kings during the sixteenth century.

4. The Mahamakham festival occurring every twelve years is the grandest and the most important in the Presidency and attracts pilgrims from all parts of India.

5. There are in our town Primary and Lower Secondary Schools for boys and girls, two High Schools and a First-grade College : and it is our hope that the arts class which is attached to the college may eventually develop into a Technical Institute.

6. Further, our town is not without its importance as an industrial centre, being noted chiefly for its weaving and metal works.

7. Your Excellency's Government has always been ready to advise and assist the municipal council in its administration. Though we have been exerting our best to make our municipal administration a success, we are still without a supply of pure water and a system of complete drainage. But as to the former the Government has been pleased to send us a scheme and has called on us to state how we could finance it. We shall at an early date submit our proposals thereon, and we humbly pray that when the matter comes on before Your Excellency's Government, Your Excellency will be pleased to contribute liberally towards its cost as our limited resources would not be sufficient to meet it without material help from Government by way of grants and loan and thereby confer an everlasting blessing on the people of this town. As to the drainage Your Excellency, during your stay amongst us, may



observe that in a flat town like Kumbakónam any efficient scheme of drainage would necessarily involve an enormous outlay which our limited finances cannot meet all at a time. We have, therefore, to be content with providing for it in a gradual and piece-meal manner, convinced as we are that the scheme cannot in the near future attain its perfection without further aid.

8. But we do not desire at the present moment to detain Your Excellency with allusions to our various wants. Our only wish is that Your Excellency will accept the sentiments with which we welcome you in our midst, and our prayer that there may be a long career of usefulness and benevolence in store for Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill.

His Excellency's reply was as follows :—

GENTLEMEN OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,—I am deeply sensible of the kindness and cordiality of your welcome, which is due, I do not doubt, to your devotion and loyalty to His Majesty the King-Emperor, whom I have the honour to represent. Lady Ampthill and I tender you our sincere thanks for all you have done in honour of our visit, and for your presence here to welcome us in person. The words of your address testify to the just pride which you feel in the historical and religious eminence of your town and in its renown as a great seat of learning, and I am glad to have this opportunity of seeing something of the present educational activity with which you keep up the latter reputation. It is



a matter for regret that so little is known of the ancient Chola dynasty, whose solicitude for the moral and material welfare of their subjects is so strikingly testified in the irrigation system which they founded and in the remains of the splendid temples which they built. I should consider myself fortunate if I ever had the opportunity of witnessing your Mahamakham festival, but I fear that the next celebration will not coincide with my sojourn in India. I am much interested to hear of your hope that the arts class attached to the college may eventually develop into a Technical Institute, and I shall watch the progress of the class in connection with the present movement for improving technical and industrial education. The weaving and metal work of Kumbakonam are well known to me and I possess some specimens of the latter art which I value very much. I am glad to see from the annual reports that your labours in the administration of the municipality have been attended by a fair measure of success, and I am not surprised to hear that you have difficult problems of water-supply and drainage to grapple with. It is a cry which I hear from almost every municipality in the Presidency, and my colleagues and I are devoting our best attention to the question of how we can help them. The principles laid down by the Government of India are that the provision of a water-supply scheme is a municipal obligation and that the State should only render assistance in very exceptional circumstances and then only by means of loans.



Our powers of assisting such schemes are, of course, limited by our financial means, and those, as you know, have hitherto been sadly restricted. I must await the proposals which you are about to submit before I can make any pledge on behalf of the Government, but meanwhile I can assure you that any reasonable suggestions for improving the supply of pure water and thus diminishing the ravages of choleraic disease fall on very sympathetic ears when they reach my colleagues and me. I greatly appreciate the consideration which you have shown in confining your address to a friendly greeting and leaving your business concerns to a time when I shall find it more convenient to deal with them. You have just indicated two matters which are concerning you most at the present time and the fact that you have mentioned them to me personally on this occasion will certainly increase my interest in them when they come before me in the course of official business. Your prayer that Lady Ampthill and I may be of use and do good to the people of this Presidency is constantly our own prayer, and it is no small encouragement to feel that we have your good wishes.

THE NATTAR HEAD WORKS.

From the Railway Reception pandal Their Excellencies drove off to the Nattar Head works, an irrigation work of some importance. Here the party was met by the Engineer and other Public Works Department officers who explained to His Excellency

the present state of the Arasilár-Nattar regulators as also the improvement that had to be made in them for regulating the supply. The Arasilár takes off from the Cauvery right bank at 46/6 mile and carries a supply for a total irrigable ayacut of 79,152 acres as detailed below :—

				ACS.
1. Direct from the Arasilár from the head down				3,009
to 59/4 mile where the Nattar takes off.				
From the Nattar head to tail end	...	...	...	34,085
Total direct	...	...	...	37,094
2. From the Nattar as follow direct from head				
to tail end—				ACS.
British territory	...	...	16,658	} 23,359
French territory	...	...	6,701	
Keerthimanar	...	...	...	11,396
				ACS.
Vanjiyaur, British territory...			3,737	} 7,303
Do French territory...			3,566	
Total acres under Nattar...				42,058
Total acres under Arasilár and Nattar	...	...	...	79,152

The above table would give a clear idea of the value and importance of these regulators. The old shutters of these works are only 4½ feet high, and prevent any accurate regulation and render it still more difficult by the large deposits of sand in front. The Nattar, under these circumstances, gets no supply till the water in the channel rises



at least 3 feet on the gauge. To remedy these defects the work now in hand is to remove the small shutters and to demolish the intermediate or jack pairs and to fit the bays of the two bridges with shutters of full width and 6 feet high. The new large shutters are suspended at each end by chains in the grooves. The chains wind on grooved cast iron drums. The drums are carried by cheeks of wrought-iron plate bolted to the roller paths and they have cogwheels cast with them and 6 inches diameter pinions on 2 inches shaft gear with these cogwheels. At one end the shaft carries a worm wheel, gearing with a double thread worm which is turned by a crank key. This combination is powerful enough to enable the shutter to be lifted up by one man. The worm gearing gives a very compact and powerful combination and prevents all chance of the shutter running down by accident. One man can easily lift the shutter half a foot a minute, and it will take him about 21 minutes or so to fully open a vent if the shutter is down. Closing the shutter will be done much more quickly as the weight is then with the work. The Arasilár was once the source of immense benefit to Karikal merchants by their extensive paddy trade inasmuch as they had cheap transit for grain through boats plying on it. With the construction by the British of masonry dams high up the river, the water-supply was blocked up and the boat communication fell through. Not only was the river not navigable and profitable to Karikal merchants, the Karikal ryots

at the tail end (east) of the channel began to complain that they had less water-supply than they would otherwise have had, and that British ryots were blocking their supply of water by sluices. The present work has been undertaken to regulate the water-supply to the irrigable lands under this river held both by the British and the French ryots.

DRIVE TO THE NATIVE HIGH SCHOOL.

KUMBAKONAM, 1st March.—After inspecting the Nattar Head works, Their Excellencies passed through the main road to the Native High School premises. At the Mahamakham tank street the drive was a slow one. On account of the grand floating feast arranged for the night, the bungalow-like car was floated in the tank, with the idol of Sri Kumbheswarar in its central *dais*, on purpose to allow Their Excellencies to have a passing view of it. The decorations round the tank square, the exceedingly charming floating car and the large crowds that thronged the street would have certainly given Their Excellencies an idea of what a Hindu floating festival would be at night. On their way to the Native High School, Their Excellencies stopped for a minute or two in front of the residence of the Municipal Chairman. The pandal here was a tasteful and picturesque specimen of local art, and Their Excellencies were welcomed by Mr. Odayar, the Chairman, who garlanded them with fine Tanjore pith garlands. Passing on, the party saw the

Kumbheswaraswami's heavy wooden car that was richly adorned with grotesque tapestry.

AN ADDRESS AT THE SCHOOL.

Their Excellencies and party halted at the Native High School, in front of which was a fine pandal. Here they were welcomed by Rao Bahadur S. Appu Sastriar and shown over the various class rooms. The narrow building was literally crammed with students and others invited for the occasion. Row Bahadur S. Appu Sastriar read the following address :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCIES,—We, the Manager, Headmaster, Proprietor, Assistant Masters and Pupils of the Native High School, Kumbakónam, beg to tender our most sincere thanks to Your Excellency and Lady Amphthill on the occasion of Your Excellency's visit to this institution, the Native High School, Kumbakónam, the first and the most successful example of self-help and independent effort in the field of secondary education, in this Presidency. We beg to be permitted to take this opportunity of stating to Your Excellency that this institution has been in existence from the 1st March 1876, that it has from the very beginning strictly enforced the rules laid down by the Director of Public Instruction from time to time regarding the levying of the rates of fees and the regulation of education, that in spite of the peculiar difficulties and disadvantages of its position it has all along

done good and efficient work, producing uniformly successful results, and competing with the recognised Secondary and Collegiate institutions in the Presidency, that it has paid particular attention to discipline, the cultivation of good manners and morals, to the excellent character of which successive Inspectors of Schools and Directors of Public Instruction have borne testimony, that the successful work of the school has been recognised and encouraged by all the Directors of Public Instruction from 1876, the University, the Madras Government, and the Government of India which conferred on the Manager, Headmaster and Proprietor, S. Appu Sastri, the title of *Rao Bahadur* as a personal distinction in 1889, in recognition of his humble educational labours, that this institution has been steadily increasing in strength, efficiency, and prosperity—the numerical strength having more than doubled itself within the last 12 years, and that it has, all along, served as an important feeder to the Government College, Kumbakonam, from 1876. We beg to submit that it may not be out of place to state that the Headmaster, Manager and Proprietor, Rao Bahadur S. Appu Sastri, has been working continuously here with single-minded devotion and earnestness for the last 26 years, that he has earned the good opinion of such distinguished gentlemen as the late Mr. H. B. Grigg, M.A., C.I.E., the Hon'ble Dr. Duncan, M.A., D.Sc., the Hon'ble Mr. A. Monro, M.A., now Inspector-General of Education in Nagpore, the late Dr. W. W. Hunter,



M.A., LL.D., President of the Education Commission, the late Hon'ble Sir T. Muthuswami Aiyar Avargal, K.C.I.E., the Hon'ble H. W. Bliss, C.I.E., the Hon'ble H. E. Stokes, K.C.S.I., and His Excellency Lord Connemara. The warm interest and sympathy which Your Excellency has graciously condescended to evince by Your Excellency's visit to this institution will not only be a great encouragement to the Headmaster and the staff, but also a tower of strength to this institution. It is therefore our most earnest request that Your Excellency should patronise this institution, and continue Your Excellency's sympathy and support. It is a sign of happy augury to the prosperity and stability of the school that so trusted and honoured a representative of Our Gracious Sovereign should have been pleased to pay a visit to this institution. The value of it is enhanced a thousandfold, because Your Excellency's visit coincides with the anniversary of the school which was founded this very day, 26 years ago. We beg permission to add that, humble as we are, we yield to none in the sincerity, earnestness and love with which we offer our most loyal greetings. In conclusion, we beg to offer our most heartfelt and grateful thanks for Your Excellency's gracious recognition of the work done by this institution. We most fervently pray to the Giver of All Good who watches us all with a sleepless eye from above to shower His choicest blessings on His Imperial Majesty, the King-Emperor, Edward VII, on Your Excellency, His trusted and

honoured representative, and on Your Excellency's consort, Lady Ampthill.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

GENTLEMEN,—Owing, I suppose, to some omission, I was not aware, until the moment I entered this verandah, that I was to receive an address here. I have also had no opportunity of becoming acquainted with the contents of the eloquent address which has just been read. I must therefore confine myself to thanking you for your kind words of welcome and to saying that I learn with pleasure that our visit to Kumbakónam has coincided with so interesting an occasion as the anniversary of the school. I am looking forward to seeing the school, and I assure you that no thanks are due to me for paying you a visit. My principal object in coming to Kumbakónam was to see its educational institutions; but it is not merely a matter of duty, but a source of great pleasure to me to visit important educational institutions in the Presidency.

His Excellency was then conducted upstairs to see the library, the laboratory and the reading-room with which he expressed himself well pleased.

AT THE GOVERNMENT GIRLS' SCHOOL.

A move was next made to the adjacent building, wherein is located the Government Girls' School. Here Their Excellencies were welcomed by the Headmistress Sellathammal and the teachers and pupils. The school was originally started by the municipality



in 1872. In 1882 it passed into the hands of Government, and since then it has been doing good work in the way of promoting the education of caste Hindu girls. It is managed by a staff consisting of a Headmistress, Miss Sellathammal, who received her early training here and has been devoting the best portion of her life in educating her sex, and four assistant Mistresses, all of whom are duly qualified teachers and former pupils of the school. The present strength is 139, and the school has, year after year, been producing good results in the Lower Secondary Examination. One reason why this school has remained a Lower Secondary School is that its strength consists mainly of Brahman girls who are withdrawn from school as soon as they complete their eleventh year, if not earlier. Instruction is imparted in this school in the following subjects:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, history, geography, hygiene, needle work, domestic economy, drawing, singing, Kindergarten occupations, object lessons and drill with calisthenics. The Headmistress is the life and soul of the institution, and she has been working here steadily since 1882, and much of the success and prosperity of the school is due to her personal influence and example.

As Their Excellencies entered the hall, the little girls sang welcome songs that gave an idea of their best vocal training. There was some drill with calisthenics and they sang action songs in which the girls acquitted themselves again creditably. This over, Miss Krishnammal, a smart girl, aged eleven,

the grand-daughter of Dewan Bahadur R. Raghunatha Rao, welcomed Their Excellencies in a neat little address in English, the delivery of which was strikingly good and the pronunciation most distinct.

Their Excellencies made no formal speech, but expressed themselves exceedingly pleased with all that they saw and heard in this school. Their Excellencies were glad to note the very flourishing condition of the institution and the excellent discipline maintained in it. Lady Ampthill, who takes a warm interest in matters conducive to the progress of her sex in India, expressed her great pleasure at having visited the institution and hearing a good English address from a little Hindu girl. Their Excellencies then drove straight to the residence of Mr. Lionel Vibert, the Acting Head Assistant Collector.

AT THE PORTER TOWN HALL.

Leaving Mr. Vibert's bungalow in the afternoon after lunch Their Excellencies halted at the Porter Town Hall entrance in a simple pandal for a minute or two. This Town Hall is in memory of the late Mr. W. A. Porter, the distinguished Principal of the Government College, one of the very few pioneers of higher education in Southern India. Their Excellencies were welcomed by the Town Hall Committee with the usual honours.

AT THE TOWN HIGH SCHOOL.

A move was next made to the Town High School. This school was started under the auspices of the



late Messrs. W. A. Porter and Rai Bahadur T. Gopal Rao as a feeder to the college. The school is registered under the Indian Companies Act and is managed by a committee of wealthy local native gentlemen. It has risen from small beginnings to its present position holding its own among the leading high schools in the Presidency.

Here Their Excellencies were received by Mr. N. Krishnaswami Iyengar, High Court Vakil, and Secretary to the Committee, and taken over the long rooms where the pupils were at work. In the hall, as Their Excellencies sat, they were greeted by two pupils with welcome songs in Sanskrit and Tamil composed for the occasion. This over, Mr. N. Krishnaswami Iyengar, in offering Their Excellencies a kind and cordial welcome, said that Their Excellencies had conferred a rare honour on the school by their visit by adding their names to its list of distinguished visitors. He took it as an appreciation of their humble efforts. They had a few requests which he said would be submitted in proper time and place for His Excellency's consideration, and hoped they would receive a liberal and sympathetic support and consideration at His Excellency's hands.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

MR. KRISHNASWAMI IYENGAR, GENTLEMEN, AND STUDENTS OF THE TOWN HIGH SCHOOL,—Lady Ampthill and I are exceedingly obliged to you for the cordial and kind welcome which you have accorded to us. That which was expressed by Mr.

Krishnaswami Iyengar in my own tongue I was able to understand. I am perfectly certain that the other forms of welcome which you gave us in languages with which I am unfortunately not acquainted, were equally cordial and equally kind. I am only sorry that I have not the knowledge of the languages to appreciate both the sentiments and the art with which they were composed. You have nothing to thank me for in my coming to see your school to-day; it is not only part of my business to do so, but it is also a matter of great interest and pleasure to do so. You tell me that you have a few requests to make and that you have considerably refrained from doing so now. For that I am much obliged to you: but I have a request to make of you which I will not refrain from making now, and that is to request you that you will be pleased to give the students of this school a holiday in honour of our visit.

Their Excellencies inspected the library and drove straight to "Padmavilas" and paid a half-hour's private visit to Mr. A. Seshayya Sastriar, c.s.l., formerly Dewan-Regent of Pudukkóttai. After taking leave of Mr. Seshayya Sastriar, Their Excellencies visited

THE GOVERNMENT COLLEGE.

At the entrance, the party was met by Mr. H. S. Duncan, the Principal, and the other Professors of the College. After inspecting the various class rooms, Their Excellencies entered the main hall. Odes of welcome specially composed for the occasion



were recited. In welcoming Their Excellencies, Mr. H. S. Duncan said that he and his staff and students thanked them most heartily for paying a visit to their college. His Excellency's presence greatly added to their happiness and pride in working in an institution which had a great past.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply, His Excellency said that he and Lady Ampthill were exceedingly grateful for the very kind welcome as expressed by Mr. Duncan and his two colleagues who were good enough to recite odes of welcome. He neither understood their sentiment nor appreciated their versification, but he felt sure they conveyed the most cordial welcome. It was a great pleasure to visit educational institutions. There was no need whatever to thank him for his presence, as it was part of his duty to visit great educational institutions in this country. He was going to ask Mr. Duncan a favour and that was to grant a holiday to the students in honour of their visit. This was acceded to by the Principal.

TO THE RAILWAY STATION.

After taking tea on the college grounds with Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, Their Excellencies and party drove to the station where they took special train for Tanjore at 5-45 P.M., the departure being private, and on arrival at Tanjore at 6-45 P.M., they drove to the residence of the District Judge, where they will be guests of Mr. and Mrs. Power till their departure to-morrow evening for Trichinopoly.

GRAND ANICUT, 3rd March.—After dinner at the District Judge's house, Their Excellencies and party left for the Tanjore Railway Station, where His Excellency took leave of Mr. C. Brooke-Leggatt, the District Superintendent of Police, who made excellent Police arrangements throughout his district. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew accompanied the party for the rest of the journey in the Tanjore district.

VISIT TO THE GRAND ANICUT.

Their Excellencies and party reached Tiruverumbúr this morning by special train from Tanjore. On arrival at Tiruverumbúr, Their Excellencies were met by Mr. R. H. Shipley, Collector, Trichinopoly, Mr. C. G. W. Clogstoun, District Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, Mr. A. Ramachan Nedungadi, Head-Quarters Deputy Collector, Tanjore, Mr. Annamalai Pillai, Tahsildar, Trichinopoly, and Mr. Kolandasawmi Pillai, Tahsildar, Kumbakónam. Driving straight to the Grand Anicut, the party halted at Uthamacheri, near the Vannár old head works, where they were met by Mr. C. J. Ussher, Superintending Engineer, V Circle, Mr. L. L. Wickham, Executive Engineer, Tanjore Division, Mr. R. Sundaram Iyer, B.C.E., Sub-Divisional officer, and escorted by Mr. C. Sambasiva Iyer, Inspector of Police, Srírangam. At this place Lady Amphill and Mrs. Andrew drove ahead to the Public Works Department Rest-house, Grand Anicut. His Excellency in company with the



Public Works Department and other officers, started on his inspection of the head works of the irrigation system of the Cauvery delta, whose value and importance occasioned the visit. The whole system is composed of three graded sections: (1) the Upper Anicut near the Elamanur station, on the Erode section of the South Indian Railway, where the Cauvery and Coleroon branch off from the main stream known up to that point as Akhanda Cauvery; (2) the Grand Anicut and the new Cauvery and Vennár regulators erected 17 miles lower down the Upper Anicut; (3) the Lower Anicut near Aduthorai station on the other side of Kumbakónam, 50 miles lower down the Grand Anicut. The whole system owes its origin in the first instance to the engineering skill of the officers employed by the Chola dynasty, the original builders of the Grand Anicut and the designers of the Great Irrigation System in the Tanjore district. This system was subsequently revised, redesigned and resuscitated by Sir Arthur Cotton, the father of the Irrigation System in this Presidency on British engineering lines.

THE OLD VENNÁR HEAD WORKS.

The old Vennár head works were first visited. These works served originally as regulators of the Tanjore deltaic irrigation. They are about 3 miles higher up the present modern regulators at the Grand Anicut. As at the former place the bed of the Vennár was found to be rocky and higher than the

level of the bed of the Cauvery, and consequently diminishing the flow in the Vennár and affecting the cultivation of the ayacut under it, they were superseded by the present regulators, 3 miles lower down at the Grand Anicut. According to Sir Arthur Cotton's scheme the only improvements made to these works was the addition of covering-sluices to the old masonry dams. At the old Vennár head works, only the old masonry bridges of very narrow widthways remain, rendering cart traffic over them very irksome and dangerous. Walking down the right bank of the river, His Excellency halted at what is now known as the Pillaivaikal No. 1, originally, a cluster of three masonry vents, of which two have been closed and one remains for irrigating a village or two adjacent to it. His Excellency's route then lay along the flood protection banks of the Cauvery from which His Excellency made a diversion by road to the Thovur village. Going through the village along its rural paths for some distance, His Excellency and party got on the line bank once more to inspect a progressive work of 10 feet of stone revetment intended as permanent river protection, as also a few *modasals*, of temporary protection put up from time to time to prevent erosion of the river banks.

THE NEW VENNÁR-CAUVERY REGULATORS.

This monument of modern British engineering skill in Southern India, that is reputed to possess the biggest head sluices in the whole of the river



irrigation system in India, was next visited by His Excellency and party. The regulators here consist of 11 big masonry arches, each 37 feet span. Each big arch has three small sluices of 10 feet span. On the whole, this section of the works on the other side of the nose is made up of 33 small sluices fitted up with iron screw gearings. The height of the shutters is 10 feet 4 inches, and these are opened in June and remain closed in March. The normal width of the river at this point is 600 feet, and the irrigable area is 469,604 acres wet land. The supply is reckoned at 2 cubic yards per acre per hour.

THE NEW CAUVERY REGULATORS.

His Excellency then inspected the adjoining set of regulators over the Cauvery from which the Vennár branches off at this point. This system consists of 14 big masonry arches, each 37 feet span, every big arch being composed of three small sluices of 10 feet each; on the whole, there are 42 such sluices fitted up with iron screw gearings, the height of the shutters being 8 feet. The shutters are closed in March and opened in June; the normal width of the river at this point being 900 feet; 463,127 acres of wet land is the total irrigable area under this system and it is reckoned that 3 cubic yards is the volume of water that flows per acre per hour. The head sluices in the Vennár-Cauvery regulators are considered to be the biggest irrigation head sluices

in all India. The Vennár old head works here were proposed, designed and executed by Major E. Lawford, and the works were carried out in 1851 by Mr. J. F. Bishop, Collector, and Mr. P. Grant, Special Assistant Collector, of Tanjore. The new Cauvery-Vennár regulators were commenced in February 1883, and completed in August 1886, by Mr. Peters, Special Executive Engineer, under the direction of Colonel J. O. Hasted, R.E., Chief Engineer, during the time of the Right Honourable M. E. Grant Duff. Below the new Cauvery-Vennár regulator, there is an interesting drainage structure known as "the Syphon Sluice," which was, however, not visited by His Excellency, for want of time.

THE GRAND ANICUT.

His Excellency and party next walked down the road, and turning a corner came upon the Grand Anicut, from which the surplus drainage channel runs north-east into the Coleroon which runs down at about a distance of 3 furlongs. The Grand Anicut was originally, in the times of the Native Rajahs and Nabobs of the Carnatic, a mere masonry stone dam or *calingula* which in 1804 was fitted with 32 arches with upright stones and in the place where the present nineteenth arch stands, the local legend says that Hyder Ali caused a big breach which destroyed the whole of the Tanjore district cultivation at the time by inundation. A small *Hanumar* (monkey-god) temple is erected at this legendary site, and he is even now popularly held



to be one of the two guardian deities for the safety of this great system of irrigation, the other being *Karuppannasami*, pitching his post on the other side of the bridge. The ten under-sluices at the Grand Anicut were built in 1830 A.D., under Sir Arthur Cotton's scheme, and Lieutenants F. C. Cotton and C. E. Faber, Civil Engineers, subsequently provided them with falling shutters. The bridge was raised and the under-sluices were fitted with iron screw gearings in 1836-83. In 1896-97 under Colonel A. M. Smart's scheme the falling shutters were replaced by lift shutters which reduced manual labour in inverse ratio to the results of the mechanism and improved the prospects of success of future irrigation developments in the Tanjore district, such as the Bhaváni reservoir and the Vadavar project projected by Colonel Smart and Rai Bahadur S. A. Subbramania Iyer, B.C.E.

The new Cauvery-Vennár regulators cost Government about eight lakhs, and the later improvements to the Grand Anicut about a lakh of rupees. The present Grand Anicut consists of 39 arches each 32 feet span, with 10 under-sluices each 4 feet by $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet. The crest level of the anicut with reference to the mean flood level is 189.30 feet. 632.30 cubic feet is the maximum volume of discharge through the Grand Anicut. The lift shutters are each 5 feet high and are open in the months of July and August to drain off into the Coleroon the Cauvery surplus. The normal width of the *Ullar* or the

FIFTH TOUR OF

inner river is 1,000 feet, while that of the Coleroon at this point is 4,000 feet, 1,080 feet is the total length of the Grand Anicut.

While crossing this interesting bridge His Excellency got down the flight of steps on the eastern end and saw the under-sluice shutters at work, and at the west end over the bridge he saw the lift shutters worked by Mr. Wickham.

Finishing the inspection of these interesting works and their powerful and costly mechanism, His Excellency and party reached the Public Works Department rest-house at 10 A.M., after a hard morning's work.

RIVER-TRAINING WORKS.

About $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles below the Grand Anicut, near Sukkambar, have been completed last year at a cost of Rs. 23,000 some very interesting river-training and protection works to which His Excellency paid no visit for want of time. The object of these new works is to avoid future breaching in the already eroded right flood-bank of the Coleroon and to reclaim about a furlong of *padugai* land, eroded by floods after the introduction of the new Cauvery-Vennár regulators, and since then the small anicut at this point has been closed up for drainage, as it was before. The eroded *padugai* land forms a portion of a hereditary shrotriem, a charity endowment, at the limits of which these regulators and the Grand Anicut are situated.

A BIG IRRIGATION WORK IN PROGRESS.

In this connection it may be noted that another important irrigation work is at present in progress at the Upper Anicut for increasing the volume of the flow in the Cauvery and the Vennár during low freshes and to act as an effective drainage during high floods when the drainage at the Grand Anicut is too weak to cope with the contingency. The works cost about 6 lakhs of rupees, and it is understood that the future possibilities of this new work are very great.

CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.

This afternoon His Excellency had a talk with the ryots, at the Grand Anicut bungalow. To the ryots who had assembled there, His Excellency said that he would be very glad to hear anything they had to say, and he did not want to go away after inspecting the Grand Anicut without giving them an opportunity of saying what they wanted to say. Mr. Ramachan Nedungadi, Head-Quarters Deputy Collector, Tanjore, was the interpreter for the occasion. The first ryot to step forward was a Tanjore Mirasidar of Eswarancoil village, holding 20 velies of land, 10 of them being under dry and the rest under wet cultivation. He said that in the settlement his dry lands were classed as wet. The assessment therefor was Rs. 9 per acre, though there was no proper drainage or irrigation resources. From fasli 1303 till now he has been paying wet assessment for those lands, and he wanted a dry

assessment, *plus* water-rate, to be charged therefor. His Excellency enquired whether he was speaking of his own lands or on behalf of others as well. The ryot said that he was speaking on behalf of the ryots of the wet lands from his village right on to the Kandan village. He complained that wet assessment at present was a very high one, as much as Rs. 14 per acre. His Excellency asked whether the lands so charged were not good ones; the ryot said that the assessment was too high, the old assessment varied from Rs. 7 to 9 per acre. In the case of *padugai* lands, he said the old assessment was Rs. 2-4-0, but now it was Rs. 9 per acre, four times the old rates. In such lands assessment was charged for second crops. He complained that there was no bank between the Cauvery and the Kodamuruti rivers. The absence of the bank led to the inundation of all their lands when there were heavy floods. The official explanation was that the banks there were low. The ryot said that there was no right bank for the Cauvery and left bank for the Kodamuruti river in the place he was speaking about. Further official explanation followed to the effect that there was no room for two banks there. His Excellency told this ryot that he was sorry to hear he had so many grievances and inquired whether he had anything more to say. The ryot complained of the present state of the road from the Grand Anicut to Tanjore. It was in such rotten state that urgent repairs were necessary. Another grievance he put forth was that at present



water was let out of the Grand Anicut in June and the ryots very much desired to have the water let out in May to enable them to raise seedlings early enough in the season. His Excellency enquired whether generally there was enough of water in May. The ryot said that the number of years in which they had water in the river in May were greater than those in which there was no water at that time. Last year there was water available in May, but it was let out in June. His Excellency enquired why the water was let out in June last year. The answer elicited was that it was done so on account of works going on in the Tirukatupalli bridge. His Excellency enquired why, having known the cause, he complained about it now. The ryot replied that the general rule was to let out water in June, but they would prefer to have it henceforth let out in May when it was available. His Excellency remarked that they always got water when it was available. He wanted to know why they wanted water in May. The man replied that in all the villages east of Tirukatupalli the lands were single crop ones. West of that village they had double crop lands that required an early supply of water to raise timely crops. His Excellency enquired whether in the case of lands west of Tirukatupalli village they were not raising two crops already, and whether this particular ryot was not raising two crops. This ryot said that he was raising two crops always. His Excellency enquired with reference to his request to have the water let

out in May, whether he wanted such a course to be adopted for raising three crops. The ryot said that it was not with that object; he proceeded to complain of the time taken for raising two crops. He said that by the 30th Ani the first crop had to be raised. They began the second crop in Puratasi. His Excellency next enquired of some ryots the nature and extent of their holdings. One man said he paid Rs. 200 kist; another Rs. 150 and a third Rs. 80. One ryot said he paid a kist of Rs. 1,500. He belonged to the Sathanur village, and held 100 acres. He complained of damages to the crops by floods and the want of a proper drainage system east of Kovilar. Another ryot who belonged to a dry village complained of partial shavi on account of the absence of rain. There was no good rain, he said, last year in his village, and for five or six years he had no good crop. He wanted the Uyyankondan channel to be repaired as it would give water to about 500 villages. His Excellency enquired whether there were any others who wanted to say anything which was not said. One man stepped forward and wanted permission to have the hook-swinging procession renewed. Ever since it was stopped he said they had no good crop. His Excellency enquired whether this ryot thought that hook-swinging had anything to do with crops. The ryot said that since the stopping by Government of hook-swinging during the Ammankoil car festival, cholera and small-pox had been on the increase, and there was no good rain. His Excel-



lency asked of the ryot why he said that cholera and small-pox were on the increase since that order. The man said that the birth and death registers would bear out his statement, and his own experience convinced him of what he said. His Excellency enquired whether the ryot had compared these birth and death registers. The ryots instanced the case of a house in which there were five children. Since the stopping of hook-swinging by Government, there were no children at all in the house, or the number of children was gradually decreasing. His Excellency said that he did not agree with the opinion of the ryot as to the connection between hook-swinging and rain and cholera and small-pox. He next asked of the ryot whom he would propose to swing on the hooks, if the order to revive the customs were given. The ryot said that the Ammankoil pujari and his house people were generally selected for hook-swinging. His Excellency asked of the ryot whether he would like to be hooked up, if other ryots selected him therefor. The ryot said that if it was the will of God that he should be hooked, he was prepared to abide by the call. His Excellency asked the ryot whether he had ever seen a hook-swinging procession in his life. The ryot said that he saw many such, and it was about ten years ago that it was stopped. His Excellency next enquired whether any one else present wanted to say anything. A ryot of Maruvur village complained that channels were getting silted up annually

and that they required repairs. He said that after the settlement, there was no good crop, and they were unable to bear the burden of the present assessment. Another grievance of his was about the present mode of kist collection. They had now to pay it in four instalments and, before, they were paying in eight instalments. He complained that in the case of lands under the Coleroon, they were subject to inundation, there being no proper drainage, and he was for the surplus being left through the Manniyar anicut. One ryot paying a kist of Rs. 500 and holding 20 acres was asked what advantage they had by reverting to the old system of paying the kist in eight instalments. He answered that instead of paying a large amount at one time the demand at a time would be less and wanted that four instalments should be collected in the *kar* season, and four in the *samba* season. His Excellency enquired when he paid the kist now. The ryot replied that he did so in four instalments from January to April. The ryot was next asked when, under the old system, he was paying the kist. He said he began to pay in November and continued to do so eight months following November. His Excellency said that they were paying kists now after both crops were harvested. The ryot said that the yield from the first crop was spent away before the kist demand and they had then to meet the cultivation charges for second crop as well. His Excellency observed that if they spent away what they got in a crop without keeping the necessary



amount to meet kist demand, it was their own fault. One ryot complained that the number of village servants was on the increase, and that two servants for a village would do, as the village servants had no work, and owing to their being retained in large numbers they had to pay an increased village service cess. If the number of village servants were reduced they would pay a proportionately less cess. Another ryot complained that in his village, which was a dry holding, the tank was not in proper order, the sluices being leaky. He said that the neighbouring village tank water inundated his nanja lands as there was no proper drainage. His Excellency enquired whose business it was to look after the tank. The ryot said that it was under the management of the Collector to whom a petition was sent about three months ago to which there was no reply. Another ryot complained about the neglect of repairs to the Uyyankondan channel. He wanted a railway station between Budalur and Tiruverumbúr. His village was eight miles from either of these railway stations. As the line went along the tank bund within half a mile from his village, a station near his village would be of some use. A Brahmin ryot of Aharapatti village was the next to have his say with His Excellency. His complaint was that the head of one of his channels was ordered to be placed in some other place, and the adoption of such a course would prejudice the interests of his village. From the Vennár two rivers branched out, the Akandha Cauvery and the Pillayarvaikal. In the *Gazette* it

was announced that the Pillayarvaikal head would be altered. Such a course would not be beneficial to the ryots as they did not believe in what the Public Works Department opined. One ryot said that repairs were necessary to a portion of the bank of the Cauvery near the Ponnáni as they apprehended damage during heavy floods. A masonry dam was also wanted by them. Another ryot complained of the depression of paddy trade and the consequent loss to the ryot owing to the bad condition of the road from the Grand Anicut to Tirukatupalli. The ryot who was anxious to have hook-swinging operations revived, repeated what he said before on the subject. His Excellency in taking leave of the ryots said that he was glad to see them and that he would think over what they said.

THE KOVILADY CHARITIES.

At the end of the ryots' deputation, Mr. R. Vasudeva Rao, nephew of Dewan Bahadur R. Raghunadha Rao, welcomed His Excellency on the occasion of this his visit to Grand Anicut which was close by his own village and presented him with a pamphlet, giving the history of Kovilady charities in the then Tiruvadi and now Tanjore taluk. These charities were founded in 1818 by Rai Raja Rai R. Venkata Rao, Dewan of Travancore, and Native Assistant to the Commissioner of Mysore. Kovilady is a village situated on the high road from Madras to Trichinopoly, and between the latter place and Kumbakónam. It had from



its vicinity to Ramnad, Sivaganga and the territory of the Raja Tondiman long been notorious for robberies, and was also entirely destitute of any place for shelter for travellers. In 1818 Rai Raja Rai R. Venkata Rao employed his savings in the erection of a charitable choultry in this village, and endowed it with lands purchased from the Mirasidars. In 1833 he applied for a favourable assessment being fixed and the same continued in perpetuity as the lands were an endowment for charitable purposes. On the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, the Government in 1836 sanctioned the proposed grant subject to the payment of a jodi of Rs. 800. A title-deed of a Dharmadayam was granted and a quit-rent was fixed. This tenure was converted into an absolute freehold and the inam was confirmed in perpetuity. In 1897 the Government agreed with the Advocate-General in considering that the water-rate and second crop charge could be legally levied on these lands, but on grounds of public policy and expediency they agreed with Messrs. Stokes and Andrew that the charge ought not to be levied and that Mr. Kindersley's pledges made at the time of the grant should be respected. This endowment is being properly administered and confers a boon on many a weary traveller.

THE DEPARTURE.

Their Excellencies and party left the Grand Anicut in the evening for Tiruverumbúr where they

took the special for Trichinopoly. They leave tomorrow morning by special train for Dindigul.

DINDIGUL, 4th March.—Their Excellencies and Party reached Dindigul this morning by special train from Trichinopoly. The arrival here was public. Their Excellencies were received by Mr. A. G. Cardew, I.C.S., Collector, Madura, Mr. E. L. R. Thornton, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Dindigul, and Dr. Chester, the Municipal Chairman. There were present on the platform: Mr. E. P. Oakshott, of Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd., Mr. Manning, Local Agent, Cigar Factory, Mr. V. Narayanasawmy Iyer, District Munsif, the Zamindars of Vadagarai and Chatrapati, the local officials, pleaders and merchants. After some formal introductions the party drove straight to the Sub-Collector's bungalow.

THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

At noon His Excellency received the following Municipal address that was enclosed in a neat casket and read by Mr. Manning :—

On behalf of the inhabitants of Dindigul, we, the Members of the Dindigul Municipal Council, most heartily welcome Your Excellency and Lady Amphill to this town of increasing importance. Your Excellency's visit is very highly valued by us, and will be specially held in remembrance, as it happens to be in the memorable year of the



coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty, our King-Emperor. In 1866 Dindigul was constituted a municipality, and from that time it has been growing in extent and importance both in commerce and population. The last is compared below with the census of the past three decades—

1871	...	...	...	...	12,865
1881	...	...	...	...	14,182
1891	...	...	...	...	20,203
1901	...	...	...	...	25,154

The principal industries of the town are the tanning of leather, manufacture of cigars and work in metal. We would most respectfully submit for Your Excellency's consideration that the supply of water we receive at present from the water-works, to the east of the railway station, is unfortunately far short of our needs. Your Excellency's Government has, however, ordered the extension of water-works, in another direction, almost south-east of the town, at the foot of the Sirunallee, called the Odukkam valley, situated at a distance of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the present reservoir. Experimental works are now being carried on, and we have every reason to hope for an adequate supply from that source. A promise was held out by Your Excellency's Government for a future grant and loan of Rs. 22,500, in G.O., No. 142, Mis., dated 8th January 1897, for another extension, since condemned, *vide* also, G.O., No. 32, Mis., dated 6th January 1898. Such promise was withdrawn in the case of the Odukkam valley experiments in



In reply, His Excellency said :—

GENTLEMEN OF THE DINDIGUL MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,
—I beg you and the inhabitants of Dindigul, on
behalf of whom you have spoken, to accept our



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best thanks for your exceedingly kind reception. It is good of you to say that our visit will afford you a pleasant recollection, and Lady Ampthill and I on our part are not likely to forego the pleasure of seeing your town and the cordial manner in which you have welcomed us. You draw my attention to the fact that Dindigul has been a municipality for upwards of 35 years, and that during that period, it has grown in extent and importance so much so that the population has nearly doubled. I gather from this that you have not found municipal taxation overburdensome, or the working of the Municipal law oppressive. It appears, however, from the last annual report that there is still a good deal to be done in the way of improving the sanitation of the town in order to mitigate the ravages of cholera, and that the collection of taxes left much to be desired. I hope that the appointment of a Secretary, which I am glad to see that you have already made at the suggestion of Government, will facilitate the transaction of your business. The comparative failure of the existing water-supply scheme is a matter for great regret. The scheme was, in the nature of an experiment, failing other known sources of supply; and it is notoriously difficult to calculate or determine, with any approach to accuracy, the quantity of water to be obtained from wells and underground sources. The failure of supply in the dry months of 1901 was, no doubt, also attributable to the long series of years of short rainfall which preceded.

I am glad to learn that the experiment now being made in the Odukkam valley promises better success. The refusal in 1900 of a grant-in-aid of the execution of this scheme which superseded the scheme projected in 1897 in aid of which a grant was promised, was due to the exigencies of the financial situation. How far it will be possible to meet your wishes in respect of a grant for the Odukkam valley scheme, I cannot now say; but you may rest assured that the facts which you have brought to my notice will receive my fullest and most sympathetic consideration when the report on the result of the experimental works being undertaken, which has been called for, comes before me. As regards the Dindigul-Palghat Railway, there is no immediate probability of any such line being made, and I understand that if there should be any likelihood of the Madura District Board being able to undertake railway projects the requirements of the coast portion of the district where communications are very defective, would have the first claim to consideration.

I am glad to hear that your commerce is growing. The manufacture of cigars has given your town a very widespread fame, and I shall have the pleasure, in the course of the afternoon, of seeing the process of manufacture at Messrs. Spencer & Co.'s factory. You are good enough to credit me with sympathy and impartiality in the discharge of my duties and while I do not hesitate to lay claim to the former quality, I am naturally less confident



as to my possession of the latter. We all try to be impartial in our dealings, whatever our position in life; but it is only those who are endowed with exceptional mental qualities who can always retain a perfectly unbiassed opinion. While thanking you for your good opinion which I do not feel to have merited, I can only say that I desire and shall constantly endeavour to be impartial in all my dealings. As His Majesty's representative, I thank you for your loyal sentiments, and I am grateful to you for the good wish you have expressed towards Lady Amphill and myself.

THE RATE-PAYERS' DEPUTATION.

This over, His Excellency received a deputation of the rate-payers of Dindigul who presented him with the following address:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the undersigned rate-payers of the town of Dindigul, respectfully beg to submit this humble memorial for Your Excellency's benign consideration and feel grateful for Your Excellency's having kindly consented to receive it on this memorable occasion. The town of Dindigul has, by its natural situation, a salubrious climate and it is steadily increasing in point of extent and population. But its chief drawback is the scarcity of water-supply, and this was felt most bitterly last year. The subject of water-supply to this town was for over twenty years under contemplation and various schemes were



proposed, during this period, for the alleviation of the sufferings of our townsmen in this respect, till at last, the one by means of underground shafts near the railway station, was recommended by the Sanitary Engineer's Department and was sanctioned. As the site selected for sinking the shafts was unsuitable for the purpose, and as calculations of the expected yield of water were based upon incorrect data, this project eventually proved a failure. On representations made by the Municipal Council, however, the Government was pleased to sanction a further grant and a loan towards supplementing the water-supply by extension of the present water-works. But difference of opinion then arose between the Sanitary Engineer's Department and the Municipal Council as to the selection of a site for the proposed extension, the former having proposed the site of the present water-works and the latter the site of the Odukkam valley, and before the site suggested by the Municipal Council was approved, the contribution graciously offered by Government lapsed. The extension at the Odukkam valley has now to be carried on, and it is impossible to have the same completed without substantial help at the hands of Your Excellency's Government. It will not be out of place here to mention that, unlike many Indian towns, this town depends chiefly upon its industries. The chief among them, the tanning industry, which was in a very flourishing condition once, has, of late, irretrievably fallen. The manufacture of iron and

metal works does not fare well. The only remaining branch of industry that is worth the name is the cigar manufacture, and this too, has now practically left the hands of the native inhabitants of the town. In the state of the resources of the town above set forth, we beg to represent that new taxes such as arts-tax and water-tax have been specially imposed to meet the expenditure on water-works. These taxes are not being paid without much discontent and hardship inasmuch as there is no corresponding benefit to the people, the supply of water available from the water-works being about one gallon per head of population during a few months of the rainy season, and then dwindling to less than half a gallon throughout the rest of the year. Under these circumstances, any addition to or increase in the taxation, to meet further expenditure on water-supply, will fall heavily and oppressively on the people. We, therefore, respectfully pray that Your Excellency be pleased to extend a helping hand to the suffering inhabitants of the town by sanctioning the requisite funds to meet the expenditure on water-works and thus to leave a lasting memorial of Your Excellency's visit to this town.

His Excellency the Governor replied as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I hope you will be satisfied with my assurance that the Memorial which you have just handed to me will receive my most careful and sympathetic consideration, and that I am unable to reply to it in the same manner as I have replied to

other addresses is due to the fact that the memorial just presented did not reach me until I was just about to start on the tour, and that actually this memorial was not seen by me until an hour ago. You will, I am sure, understand me that once I am launched on a tour like the present, quite apart from the difficulty of correspondence with Secretaries and other people concerned, it is impossible for me to find time to peruse the papers and consider a matter of this kind. As you know, most or the greater part of my time is occupied with various functions and public duties, and any little interval that there may be between sight-seeing, speechifying, interviewing and inspecting is naturally filled up with ordinary duties of administration from which I am not absolved even while going on tour. In these circumstances, when I once start from Madras it is impossible for me to go into questions of this sort. But I shall be very glad to do so on my return to Madras and promise to consider the point raised in the memorial. I am very glad, however, to have met you this morning, because it gives me a chance of thanking you and the people of Dindigul for the extremely kind manner in which you have received us here and telling you how greatly I admire the beautiful manner in which you have decorated the town in honour of our short visit. I assure you we greatly appreciate this mark of your loyalty to the King-Emperor, of whom I am the representative here. I am glad, therefore, to have had this opportunity of thanking you, and I



hope that you will convey my thanks and those of Lady Amphill to your fellow-citizens.

VISIT TO MESSRS. SPENCER & CO.'S CIGAR
FACTORY.

This afternoon, Their Excellencies and party paid a visit to the Cigar Factory established here by Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd. This is the third time that a Governor has visited this factory, Lord Wenlock having visited it in 1892, and Sir Arthur and Lady Havelock in 1897. The factory and the Superintendent's bungalow are situated in extensive premises which have been turned into a garden by the zealous care bestowed upon them by the officers in charge. Flags, banners and bannerets of varied hues and artistic tints were used in profusion for decorating almost every portion of the buildings and premises. Triumphant arches, with appropriate greetings, formed no mean feature of the ornamentation, and monster cheroots hung from the centre of a few of such arches betokened the speciality of the big tobacco industry carried on in it. The factory was opened by Messrs. Spencer & Co., about 1887. The various departments of the factory were shown to Their Excellencies by Mr. Shortt, the Factory Manager, accompanied by Messrs. Oakes and Oakshott. It was as interesting as instructive to notice the various operations by which a combination of the indigenous and foreign leaf was clearly and carefully manipulated into the well-known brands of cigars, "Gold Mohurs,"

"Little Randolphins," "Imperials," "Siestas," "Beaconsfields," "Torpedos" and "Flor de Spencer."

The indigenous foreign leaf that is purchased by the English capitalists at cheap rates from the country around is first brought into the factory into which are also imported a choice selection of the fragrant leaf from Sumatra and Java. These are carefully packed up in country bags and gunnies, piled one over the other to the very top of the ceiling in the factory godowns. They are next taken out and douched in big masonry tubs and then unpacked and brought into the shade on the verandahs and exposed till they retain but scant moisture. The ribs are then removed from the leaf and brought into the manipulating hall, where, between three and four thousand workmen, consisting of adults and boys roll them into "fillers" (inside of the cigar) to suit various shapes and brands; over this the foreign leaf is pasted as wrapper with corn-flour paste. The long rollers are then removed into the central hall where another set of workmen cut them to shape and size by means of machines. It is noteworthy that the cut end of these "fillers" and the ribs of the leaf are carefully stored and sold to tobacco chewers and snuff vendors, to the advantage of both the parties. From the cutting hall the finished cigars are "binned" or kept in big wooden boxes until they are assorted, branded and boxed, labelled and despatched to the different parts of the world.



Another kindred industry that is going on in the same premises is the box-making department in which a number of workmen are engaged in sawing into thin sheets of different dimensions red cigar logs imported from Palghat and other places. These sheets are removed to the papering department and made up into the familiar cigar boxes. Here a large number of native girls and women are engaged in pasting over the edges of these boxes, coloured paper, and on the lids and sides, varied and appropriately designed printed labels that bespeak the flavour and quality of their respective contents. The maximum outturn per day is a lakh of cigars, and an adult workman would roll at the highest a day from three hundred to four hundred cigars, their wages ranging from Rs. 6 to Rs. 30 a month according to the quality and expeditiousness of their work. At the factory bungalow Their Excellencies and party and a large number of other guests, in all about thirty ladies and gentlemen sat down to an excellent lunch provided by Messrs. Spencer & Co. Their Excellencies and party returned to the Dindigul Station in the evening and took the special for Madura.

AT MADURA.

MADURA, 5th March.—Their Excellencies left Dindigul by special train at 5-15 and arrived here at 6-45 P.M. and were met on the railway platform by several European ladies and gentlemen and many

leading native gentlemen. Mr. A. G. Cardew, the Collector, who accompanied the party from Dindigul, introduced those present to Their Excellencies. Thousands of spectators had assembled outside the station compound, and all along the route, which was most gaily decorated with flags, and triumphal arches bearing appropriate inscriptions. Their Excellencies' stay with Mr. Cardew during their visit to Madura. After dinner Their Excellencies drove to the Teppakolam tank to witness the illuminations and fireworks there. This tank is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, in Southern India, and has a garden in the midst of it with a small temple and tower in it. The flight of steps and the parapet walls were most gorgeously illuminated with thousands of lamps and the effect was heightened by the reflection in the placid waters. Hundreds of Chinese lanterns suspended from the trees and plants in the garden in the centre of the tank lent colour and variety to the scene. Their Excellencies and party and the European residents remained for an hour admiring the splendid illuminations as well as the effective display of fireworks.

THE PALACE AND THE TEMPLE.

This morning, accompanied by Mr. A. G. Cardew, Mr. L. M. Wynch and Mr. E. Labouchere Thornton, Their Excellencies visited Tirumala Naick's Palace, where the seat of the government of the Nayaka Dynasty was located during the centuries they reigned in Madura. The Governor



then visited the Hindu temple, so well-known throughout India for its architectural and sculptural beauties. They spent over three-quarters of an hour in minutely inspecting almost every part of the temple and admiring the many special points of sculpture in it. The large collection of valuable jewels and table service belonging to the God were also inspected.

THE HINDU PERMANENT BENEFIT FUND.

From the temple Their Excellencies drove to the new premises of the Madura Hindu Permanent Benefit Fund, and on the way stopped for a little while in front of the residence of the Hon'ble Mr. G. Srinivasa Rao, who garlanded Their Excellencies and introduced to them the principal members of his family. At the premises of the Fund, the Hon'ble Mr. Srinivasa Rao and other Directors met Their Excellencies and conducted them to the verandah where they took seats placed under a flowery arch. The following address was read to His Excellency :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—On behalf of the share-holders of the Madura Hindu Permanent Fund (Limited) we beg to accord Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill a most hearty welcome and to submit that we esteem it a privilege to have the new building for the location of the Fund office opened by you.

The fund entered upon the ninth year of its existence in January last, having been established

on the 21st of January 1894. It commenced operations on a small scale on that date with but 15 subscribers who had taken 175 shares among them. But the progress of the fund has been steady and at the end of the first cycle of seven years on the 20th January 1901, the total number of subscribers was 1,025 with 6,538 shares among them.

One main object of the institution is to enable persons, especially the poor, to save money and that this object is being fulfilled is testified to by the fact that 60 per cent. of the subscribers held, each of them, five shares and under, while no less than 10 per cent. held but a solitary share.

Another object of equal importance is to enable persons to secure loans at a favourable rate of interest; and at the end of the seventh year the fund had lent out Rs. 2,79,911. 370 acres of land distributed over 30 villages in the district were mortgaged to the fund, which the Directors submit is a specially gratifying feature to note, as showing that the agricultural population in the rural parts has begun to appreciate the benefits of the fund and profit by the low rate of interest of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum on all loans and by the provision for their liquidation by means of small monthly subscriptions.

Our list of subscribers is a thoroughly representative one, being made up of persons of all grades of society from the Government official, the lawyer, and the landlord to the peasant, the dhoby and the barber. The institution is in fact a co-operative



credit society of the kind contemplated by the Agricultural Banks Committee. We have perused with great interest the recommendations of that body and await anxiously the measures that may be taken by the Government of India to give effect to them. We would, however, submit that it would be a great advantage to us if Your Excellency will be pleased to permit us to deposit our cash in the Government Treasury, as such a concession is sure to increase the public confidence in us.

We would also beg leave to take this opportunity to bring to Your Excellency's notice that the present enhanced rate of search fees levied by the Registration department for encumbrance certificates is felt to be too heavy a charge by borrowers from the fund. One-half of the loans given by us on the mortgage of immoveable property is for sums not exceeding Rs. 600, and more than a fifth for sums not exceeding Rs. 300. Loans are advanced for even less than Rs. 100, as our aim is mainly to benefit the poorer classes. The heavy search fee of Rs. 20 detracts considerably from the usefulness of the fund, and we pray that the fee may be reduced to a nominal sum in the case of institutions like this.

In conclusion we beg to offer our respectful thanks to Your Excellency for this act of gracious condescension in having consented to open the new fund building and wish Your Excellency and Lady Amphill long life and prosperity.

The Governor's reply was as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your very kind welcome to Lady Ampthill and me, and I assure you it will remain in our memory as one of the many pleasant events in our present tour. I am glad to be associated in your important institution by opening this new building, which stands as a conspicuous proof of your success during the first nine years of your existence. You have been good enough to give me some concise information with regard to the fund in your address, and I recognise with pleasure that your institution is in effect one of those Agricultural Banks the need of which all over India has been so strongly represented. I congratulate you on the initiative which you have taken in this important matter, and on the success which has hitherto attended your enterprise, and which, I trust, will be continuous and progressive. Your example, so far as I can see, may well lead to the establishment of Agricultural Banks in other parts of the Presidency, for it is to the enterprise and initiative of private persons that we must mainly look for the attainment of this most desirable end. The purpose of my visit, however, is not to speak on the wider aspects of your undertaking, but to open your new building and to reply to your specific representations. I shall, therefore, pass on at once to two requests which you make to me, and which were also made me last week by a deputation from the Tanjore Permanent Fund, from whom I received much interesting and useful informa-



tion. You ask in the first place that you may be permitted to deposit your cash in the Government Treasury. As I only received your address on the eve of my departure from Madras, and as the deputation at Tanjore also came at short notice, I have not yet had an opportunity of enquiring whether there would be any objections to granting this request, and I am under the impression that the required sanction would have to come from the Government of India, as an alteration in the Civil Account Code is involved. I told the Directors of the Tanjore Fund that I would enquire into the matter on my return to Madras, and this is also my answer to you. You next ask that the search fee levied by the Registration department may be reduced to a nominal sum in the case of your institution. The Tanjore Directors went a step further and asked for permission to search the register free of charge. I promised them that I would consult the Inspector-General of Registration and consider the question. This I shall of course do on your behalf as well as on theirs, and if it should be possible to grant the larger concession, I presume that it would not be unwelcome to you. Although I can make no promise without having duly considered these matters, I can say at once that I hope it will be possible to meet your wishes. Before I declare this building open, let me once more thank you for your kind welcome and good wishes and on my part I hope that your institution will enjoy long and continued prosperity and that it will be

the means of encouraging thrift and rendering timely assistance to many of those who need it, and particularly to the poorer classes in your district.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

At noon, the Municipal Council and a deputation of the inhabitants of the city and district waited upon His Excellency with addresses of welcome, which contained at the same time long statements of their wants. His Excellency received both the bodies under a well decorated pandal in the compound of the Collector's bungalow.

THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the members of the Municipal Council of Madura, beg to accord to Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill a most hearty welcome to our ancient and historic city.

On behalf of the citizens of Madura, we beg that Your Excellency will be pleased to convey to His Most Gracious Majesty, The King Emperor, our feelings of deep loyalty and heart-felt devotion to the throne.

Our pleasure in welcoming Your Excellency to our city as the representative of His Most Gracious Majesty, the King Emperor, is greatly enhanced by the fact that Your Excellency's reputation for courtesy and affability and for a desire to know things for yourself at first hand, alike from the wealthiest zemindar and the meanest ryot, has preceded Your Excellency's arrival.



The population of Madura has vastly increased during the last decade, so that it is now the second city in the Presidency. Our responsibility in regard to the health and well-being of her citizens and the sanitation of the city, which has become heavy already, is bound to become heavier still in the near future by the stimulus to pilgrim traffic which the opening of the Madura-Pámban Railway must necessarily give.

We are badly in need of a good hospital building and a good market and we are directing our attention to these wants. Our water-supply fails during the hottest months in the year when it is most needed and a supplementary scheme for its improvement is now engaging the attention of the Sanitary Board and will, we hope, be shortly placed before Your Excellency in Council for sanction.

The health of the city is seriously affected by want of a proper system of drainage. The Council has been alive to this prime necessity and has brought the subject prominently to the notice of Your Excellency's predecessors and of the Viceroy during their visits to Madura. Levels have been taken with the sanction of Government and a scheme is under preparation by the Sanitary Engineer to Government, which, we hope, will soon be completed and laid before Your Excellency in Council. Considering the limited state of the finances of the Municipality, the Council has resolved to restrict the scheme for the present to within the four Masi streets. Even thus restricted, the scheme is likely

to cost about six lakhs of rupees. Weighted as we are with a debt of Rs. 2,27,500 on account of the original water project, for which we shall have to provide a heavy sinking fund for the next fifteen years and which we shall have to extend and improve at a great cost, and with a further debt of Rs. 13,000 due to Government on account of the old jail buildings, we shall not be able to work out even the restricted drainage scheme for many years without substantial help from Government by way of a liberal grant and loan at a reduced rate of interest. In fact, unless Government is pleased to extend to us such help, the second city in the Presidency will, we fear, be obliged to continue in an insanitary condition. Your Excellency's predecessors have viewed our request for a drainage scheme sympathetically and Sir Arther Havelock was pleased to say in his reply to our address on the occasion of his visit to Madura in October 1897 :—

“If the scheme to which you allude comes before Government in a well-digested form, as you say it will during the next year, I promise you it shall have our best attention and every encouragement and assistance that we can properly give it.” The scheme has been for one reason or another delayed for four years, but the need for it and for the encouragement and assistance of Government has grown in the interval. We pray that, when the time comes for us to make a definite request, Your Excellency will be pleased to view it favourably and accede to it in a generous spirit.



In conclusion, we pray that God Almighty may bless Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill with long life and all prosperity and happiness.

His Excellency's reply to the Municipal address was as follows :—

GENTLEMEN OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,—Lady Ampthill and I are sincerely grateful to you for your words of welcome and the kind manner in which you have received us. You have added not a little to my pleasure at finding myself in Madura by the assurance of your personal goodwill towards me, a friendly feeling which I heartily reciprocate. It will be a pleasant duty to convey to His Majesty the King-Emperor the expression of your loyalty and devotion to the throne. The expansion and growing importance of Madura must, as you say, add greatly to the duties and responsibilities which you undertake on behalf of your fellow-citizens, and I hope that your labours will result in such improvement of their general well-being as will earn their appreciation and amply reward you for your trouble and anxiety. I am glad to learn that you are able to undertake the construction of a new hospital which cannot fail to be of great benefit to your town. You have also done wisely in taking steps to construct a new market, which, I understand, is very sorely needed, the present markets being badly constructed and in bad repair. Plans and estimate for the improvement of your water-supply are now before the Chief Engineer by whom they will be



scrutinised and forwarded to you at an early date for approval and submission to Government with your proposals for financing the scheme. The laying out of proper drainage works in the town is, you assure me, a very pressing want, and I am told that you have not overstated your needs in this respect. You bespeak my sympathetic consideration of your claim for assistance from Government to carry out the scheme which you expect shortly to be able to lay before Government. I can safely promise you that you shall have that, but I cannot pledge my Government to make a grant-in-aid, for, as I have said elsewhere, in answer to similar appeals, the principle laid down by the Government of India is that such grants should not be made unless the local authority is quite unable to finance the scheme out of its own revenues, increased taxation or by means of a loan. The facts which you have brought to my notice as to your financial condition will, however, be borne in mind when the papers come before me in complete shape. I notice, however, in the last Annual Administration Report of your Municipality that there are balances outstanding under the several taxes amounting to no less than Rs. 21,000. Forgive me for saying that you cannot well plead poverty so long as you are as remiss as this in the collection of your revenue. I thank you on behalf of Lady Ampthill and myself for the kind manner in which you have added to the generous store of good wishes which we have received during the course of our present travels



and which we regard, I assure you, as something more than empty words.

ADDRESS FROM THE INHABITANTS OF THE
CITY AND DISTRICT OF MADURA.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—On behalf of the inhabitants of the City and District of Madura, we beg leave to accord to Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill a most hearty welcome to our ancient and historic town and to request that Your Excellency will be pleased to convey to His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII, Emperor of India, our respectful assurances of deep loyalty and devotion to His Majesty's Person and Throne.

2. Madura is famous as the capital of the ancient Pandyan Kingdom, and one of the capitals of the Kingdom of the Nayak Dynasty which made itself so famous in the seventeenth century at Gingee, Tanjore and Madura. Of all the rulers of that dynasty, the most famous was Tirumala Nayak who greatly enlarged the temple, constructed the Teppakulam with its picturesque island and especially built the great Palace which, in its present state, is but a small remnant of the original structure.

3. Madura's renown was established long before these great structures were erected, by the Tamil Colleges of Poets that were gathered here. Even as late as the year 1609 the Jesuit Fathers reported ten thousand Brahman students as studying in the three Universities of the Town. This spirit of literary pursuit has had many and long interruptions.

But the desire for learning was never lost and from time to time reasserted itself. At present various flourishing institutions of learning are fostering the ancient spirit, directing it in ways of usefulness and wisdom.

4. We congratulate ourselves on the near prospect of the opening of the long-wished-for Madura-Pámban Railway, and thank the Government for ordering its early completion.

5. We all feel the need of suitable drainage in the town, a subject brought before Your Excellency in the address of the Municipal Council.

6. The British Government has placed our district under everlasting obligation by the construction of the Periyár Project. While we gratefully acknowledge the benefits resulting therefrom, we feel it our duty to call attention to some of the difficulties under which the ryots labour in connection with its administration. Whereas the mamool wet lands irrigated by the Periyár water have been registered as single crop lands, the waste lands recently sold and assigned by Government are treated as double crop lands. We would respectfully submit that the imposition of a compulsory double crop assessment on these lands works great hardship as (1) experience has shown that water is not available for a sufficiently long period to enable the ryots to grow two crops successfully and (2) the waste lands which are mostly poor cannot for some time to come bear the strain of two crops every year. An option to the ryots to raise a single or double crop according to



circumstances will not, we submit, act to the detriment of public revenue, as the ryots will, in their own interest, always cultivate more than one crop whenever feasible.

7. The owners of lands irrigated by Periyár water suffer from want of roads to take manure to and produce from their lands. The District Board has, after careful investigation, decided upon the roads to be constructed and taken steps to acquire lands, and has also pledged itself to devote the whole of the extra land-cess derived from the Periyár Project to their construction and maintenance. But without the help of Government it is able to do very little. Successive Collectors and the Board of Revenue have recommended that a portion of the proceeds derived from the sale of waste lands may be utilized for the purpose of constructing roads, and we pray that effect may be given to the recommendation.

8. Again, many of the villages affected by the Periyár have no forest adjoining them for purposes of pasture and manure leaves. Nor do they possess sufficient waste land reserved for the grazing of cattle and other communal purposes, or for being assigned to ryots for the purpose of raising manure leaves. We therefore pray that, before conducting further sales of lands under the Project, a sufficient extent of land be set apart for the purposes mentioned above.

9. We would also submit that, with the present supply of Periyár water, no tanks, however small in extent, should be abandoned, since they are necessary

for man and beast when the channels are dry, and are useful to supplement Periyár water and to raise seedlings before the water is let down from the lake.

10. We would next invite the attention of Your Excellency to the fact that reserved forests often abut upon occupied lands ; and we pray that the reserved portions may be kept at a sufficient distance from them to relieve the ryots from the hardships caused by their cattle straying into the forest. The restriction of permits for grazing to a single block even in villages in which more than one are thrown open for grazing, is, we submit, another needless hardship to the ryots, as they do not always understand in which block they are to graze their cattle and sometimes cattle stray from one block into another with the result that the owners are subjected to the penalties under the Forest Act. Considering that the country mainly depends upon agriculture and that according to the declared policy the chief object of the reserved forests throughout the greater part of the country is the provision of pasture, small timber, fuel, and leaves for manure or litter, we venture respectfully to submit that free permits may be ordered to be granted for grazing in, and for taking manure leaves and materials for agricultural implements and huts from portions of reserved forests to be set apart for these purposes year after year by rotation.

11. We rejoice that the subject of forming agricultural banks is engaging the attention of



Government and pray that speedy steps may be taken to bring them into operation.

12. We also pray that a demonstrative and experimental farm may be opened at Madura as it would tend to improve the extended agricultural operations now going on under the Periyár Project.

13. The ryots of the Presidency owe a debt of gratitude to Your Excellency for having secured the abolition of Court-fee for remission petitions. We would respectfully urge that the insistance upon a written application, the prohibition of collective applications and the obligation to apply before the end of January which has the effect of precluding the grant of remission in respect of crops which may wither subsequently, still remain as grievances. We would also submit that the collection of tax on lands for which there is not sufficient Government water for raising a crop in a particular year, simply because the ryots laid them waste in good years also, or because they are portions of survey field, and the levy of tax on lands which, owing to deficiency of water, fail to yield enough to cover the cultivation expenses, are felt as great hardships by the ryots, and we pray that the remission rules be ordered to be amended in these respects.

14. The Hindu and Muhammadan sections of the community possess several large temples with vast endowments in this district, but their management is not what it should be. They have with one voice been asking for very many years for a change in the law fully believing that that would conduce

to the better management of the endowments. They fully subscribe to the policy underlying Act XX of 1863 of abstaining from anything like executive interference by the Government or its officers with the religious concerns of the people. They merely seek to make the existing Act more effective by remedying admitted defects in it. With this object in view, they would submit the following suggestions :—

(a) abolition of the life membership of Committee members ;

(b) compulsory periodical meetings of Committee members and publication of their proceedings ;

(c) compulsory preparation of a budget every year ;

(d) annual auditing of accounts and the publication of an abstract of the same ;

(e) affording the facilities to the public for the inspection of records and accounts and taking copies thereof on payment of charges ; and

(f) abolition of Court-fee in respect of suits against members of Committee, Trustees, Managers or Superintendents, in cases in which the District Court sanctions the same and also in respect of those which the members of a Committee may bring against Trustees, Managers or Superintendents.

It is submitted that none of the suggestions tend to alter in any way the principles embodied in the Act and that steps may be taken to amend Act XX of 1863 on these lines, at all events so far as this Presidency is concerned. The last suggestion

seems to have already commended itself to the Government of India (*vide* G.O., No. 114, Legislative, dated 23rd October 1894).

15. Lastly we would beg leave to mention that the recent raising of fees in the Registration Department is a real hardship, especially to persons borrowing from funds and to creditors and debtors when lands are brought to sale through the Court as in such cases the production of encumbrance certificates is invariably insisted upon. In view of the declared policy of Government that the Registration fees are not to be considered as a source of profit to be used for general purposes and of the handsome surplus that now exists to the credit of the Department, we respectfully pray that the order raising the fees be cancelled.

In conclusion, we devoutly pray that Lady Amphill and Your Excellency may be blessed with long life, prosperity and happiness.

His Excellency replied to the address as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you sincerely for all that you have done by word and deed to show that you welcome Lady Amphill and me to your ancient and far-famed city, and we shall remember the kindness and cordiality of your reception as long as we remember the interesting and beautiful sights of Madura. It will be a gratification to me to convey your message to His Majesty the King-Emperor who appreciates the loyalty and devotion of the peoples of India with that heartfelt solicitude and sympathy

which His Majesty owes not only to the great example of Queen Victoria, but also to his own personal acquaintance with the land in which we live. I am glad to recognise in the opening remarks of your address the just pride which you feel in the historic fame of your city and in its present resources, for I am one of those who believe that municipal patriotism is a sure basis for the wider patriotism of nations and empires, and that local administration, which to be efficient must be animated by local pride, is the best training school for those who wish to have a voice and to take part in the wider spheres of Government.

I have just visited Tanjore, the former capital of the Chola dynasty, and it is therefore particularly interesting to me to find myself now in the ancient capital of the Pandyan dynasty, who were the obstinate rivals of the Cholas until both of them fell under the sway of the great kingdom of Vijayanagar when the feud was carried on by their successors the Naicks of Madura and Tanjore. There are still grounds for rivalry between Madura and Tanjore, but only of an archæological and perfectly friendly nature, for while Tanjore can boast of the more ancient temple, you are able to assert that their palace was copied from yours. I shall not venture to attempt a decision between such nicely balanced claims. Your reference to the College of Poets has led me to acquaint myself with the interesting tradition which typifies the Tamil revival against the Sanskrit in its tale of the "Kural" which expanded



on the poet's seat until all the Professors of the Sangattar were ejected, and I am obliged to you for thus attracting my attention to this picturesque piece of folk-lore. I am looking forward to seeing the Madura College in which you keep up your old reputation for learning, and I have already seen and admired the Teppakulam tank in exceptionally favourable and picturesque circumstances.

But for the excessive rainfall in November and December, the Madura-Pámban Railway might have been opened last month, but in the present circumstances we cannot, I fear, hope for the opening until June. Passing by the question of drainage, which, as you say, is dealt with in the Address of the Municipal Council, I come to the 6th paragraph of your address.

What you say about the registration as double crop of the waste lands sold in villages to which Periyár water is supplied shall be brought to the notice of the Board of Revenue, before whom I understand a reference from the Collector on the subject is pending. I understand, however, that the hardship is not quite so serious as your Address would imply. The purchasers at the sales know beforehand the condition under which they buy, and the average prices realised during last year do not show a decline below the prices realised three or four years ago when lands were first sold, so that the earlier purchasers would not appear to have discovered that they had made a bad bargain.

Then again the bulk of the lands sold are lands classed in the settlement register as dry lands, and in regard to them I may remind you that concessions were made by Government in 1899. For the first year after sale only one-fourth assessment is charged, in the second year only half, and so on, full assessment not being levied until the fourth year. I quite understand, however, that the water-supply varies according to the position of the lands on the channels, those nearer the head getting a better supply than those lower down, and your representations shall be fully considered.

The conversion of so much dry land into irrigated fields has naturally changed the face of the country, and tracks across which carts were formerly able to travel in dry weather without much difficulty have no doubt now become impassable, so that the necessity for new roads, to which you call my attention, has indeed become an urgent one. Government has not been unmindful of it and called for an estimate in February, 1900, for the most important road, in order to form an idea of the cost of construction of the 100 miles of cross roads which have been investigated (besides an equal length of village roads). Arrangements are being made for the speedy completion of this important work. The question as to how funds can be provided will then have to be considered. The Collector has, I understand, asked for a grant of Rs. 2 lakhs from Provincial funds, and the matter shall receive my careful consideration when it comes before me.



The provision of forests in this tract is out of the question, but before further sales of lands take place the reservation of lands required for house-sites, cattle-stands, threshing floors and similar communal purposes will be considered, but the case of each village requires separate treatment and no general principle can be laid down. Temporary leases have also been ordered to be granted at a low rent for raising plants suitable for leaf manure.

The retention of all tanks is, I am told by the Collector, not only unnecessary, but would result in positive waste of water. The abandonment of tanks will be conducted with great caution. Only 37 tanks have been ordered to be closed up to date and no indiscriminate closure will be insisted on. Orders have recently been issued by the Board of Revenue to meet the difficulty you refer to about forest boundaries adjoining cultivated land. The system of dividing forest grazing areas into blocks is necessary in order to prevent over-grazing, and the difficulty of distinguishing one block from another would not seem to be a very serious one to villagers who must know the locality from childhood. I understand, however, that it is largely due to the practice of leaving the cattle in charge of young children who are often, either wilfully or through ignorance, heedless where they drive the cattle. This, however, is purely a matter for the local officers to settle. As far as my information at present goes, the unreserved lands are available for free grazing and for the free collection of leaves for



manure, firewood and small timber for *bona fide* domestic purposes. Your request that the forests should be thrown open for similar purposes is, I am afraid, inadmissible, with due regard to the exigencies of any system of proper conservancy. Experience has shown that irreparable mischief is done by herd-boys lopping leaves and twigs and by the holders of free permits by unsystematic and unscientific felling, by thoughtless blazing and ringing of trees, and in various other ways.

Your next request for an experimental farm to be opened at Madura shall have my attention, but before starting any more farms we have deemed it best to await the development of the two existing farms in Bellary and Koilpatti.

The duty of fostering the establishment of agricultural banks has been entrusted to the Hon'ble Mr. Nicholson, and I am sure you will all agree that no one better qualified by patient study of the subject and by intimate knowledge and experience of rural economics could be found for the task. The report of the committee appointed by the Government of India to consider the question has been received and the best means of giving practical effect to its suggestions will receive the most careful consideration of my Government. The establishment of rural banks is an undertaking demanding for its success the development in a high degree of the qualities of mutual confidence and self-help: and we look to the leading men



among the native community for assistance in fostering these qualities, and I may add, for a greater amount of initiative than they have hitherto displayed in conducting experiments, for it is only through experiment and possibly failure that eventual success can be achieved--towards arriving at a solution of the problems involved.

The question of revising the remission rules to which you next call my attention has been under consideration of Government for some time, and orders on the subject will shortly be issued. In ordinary seasons the rule requiring a written application for remission is necessary in order that the Revenue officers may have timely information of the locality to be inspected and to show that remission is required. Remission being purely a matter of grace, it is not too much to insist that application should be made for it. But in bad years, when the loss is widespread and when the District officials will themselves have taken the initiative in the matter of ordering general inspection, some relaxation in the rule may be found possible. As regards remission for *mamool* waste and remission for part fields and for fields which do not yield enough to cover cultivation expenses (whatever proportion of an ordinary crop that somewhat vague expression may be meant to cover), the rules cannot be relaxed in ordinary years with due regard to the principles on which the land settlement in the Presidency has been made. How far it may be possible or advisable to amend them to meet extensive losses



in exceptional seasons is now being considered by myself and my colleagues.

The amendment of Act XX of 1863 has before now been urged upon the Government of India, but that Government was of opinion that the need for legislation in respect of Hindu religious endowments had not been established, and I cannot hold out any hope of any further attempts being made in this direction at an early date.

With regard to the last subject to which you allude, viz., the recent raising of registration fees, the only case in which, so far as I can learn, registration fees have been raised by the orders of 1900 arises from the removal of the maximum fee for searches which previously existed. The abolition of the maximum fee was not intended to raise the receipts from fees : it was decided upon to save the department the unnecessary work thrown upon them by applicants who, though they had a very fair idea of the period within which the search should be confined, generally preferred to ask for a search through the whole of the records of the department. The principle now adopted of making a separate charge for each year's records searched through seems, therefore, to be not unreasonable. But if you are not satisfied with these remarks I must ask you to be good enough to make your representations through the ordinary channels in somewhat more explicit shape. I thank you once more for your welcome and for the kind manner in which you



have wished Lady Ampthill and me prosperity and happiness.

The deputations then withdrew.

VISIT TO THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

This Institute rose from a combination of two or three desultory institutions in Madura that were dragging on a miserable existence some years ago. It was visited by Sir Arthur Havelock and recently by the Industrial Commission. The industrial section of the present Institute rose from the Municipal Industrial School sparsely attended at the time, the agricultural section having been contributed by the Farmer's Club and now hopelessly given up; and the Normal section was taken over by the Government Normal School, which, since last year, has been separated into a distinct institution by itself. Originally, this Institute was known as the Technico-Normal Institute, but since the separation of the Normal department it has been designated the Technical Institute. From the very commencement this Institute has been in charge of Mr. G. Subbusawmi Iyer, B.A., L.T., its able and popular Superintendent, to whose untiring efforts the Institute owes all its present prosperity. It has, in fact, come to be at present a little more than a self-supporting institution as the District Board's outlay for its maintenance and upkeep of the workshops is more than compensated for by the sale-proceeds of the Industrial branch. The carpentry class is the most largely attended of the Industrial

department, and there are five Brahmins on the rolls who have cheerfully taken to the chisel. There are, besides this, the blacksmith's section, brass and bell-metal section, and an aluminium section. The training section of which drawing forms the chief feature, is located in the second floor of the building and is very largely attended by different ages and grades of pupils. At the entrance to the school, which was tastefully decorated, Their Excellencies and Party, who were accompanied by Mr. Cardew, the President of the District Board, were received by Mr. G. Subbusawmi Iyer, the Superintendent, who conducted them through the various departments. The first section visited by Their Excellencies was the Drawing section where the finishing touches that were being given by a pupil to an oil-colour likeness of His Majesty the King-Emperor, and another the portrait of the local Minakshi temple, attracted the attention of the distinguished visitors. Led downstairs into the Industrial department, Their Excellencies inspected with much interest the various artizan pupils at work in their respective departments, wood carving of a rare quality and lock-making and other fitter's work of superior finish, being the specialities of this institution, as has been remarked in the visitors' book by several experts. Among the products of this section that were exhibited for sale, the attention of Their Excellencies was drawn to an exquisitely carved round teapoy, artistically etched on the surface with various Swamies and mounted on four carved



elephant heads with ivory tusks, which were also the results of laborious carving. A stud of stags, made of sandalwood, a brass gopuram with a pedestal in the centre, a wooden puzzle box, a few patent locks and one or two aluminium native vessels were among those over which Their Excellencies spent a few minutes in examining their finish and general get up. Her Excellency being struck with the teapoy described above has honored the Institute with an order for one of its kind for her drawing-room, costing about Rs. 250. The inspection over, Their Excellencies were garlanded with Madura lace, and the Superintendent thanked Their Excellencies in a few well chosen words for their kind visit, and His Excellency on behalf of himself and Lady Ampthill expressed himself well pleased with all that they had seen that afternoon. His Excellency then shook hands with the Superintendent, who introduced the rest of the staff. It is peculiar that the Industrial section is attended by pupils who are mostly of the local artizan class, and the remarks in the visitors' book by such men as Mr. A. Chatterton, Mr. H. A. Bhabha, Dr. King, Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Love, and others testify to the real usefulness of the institution and its wonderful progress. Orders for wood carving are being registered from Germany, Austria, France and other places, besides the United Kingdom, and the Superintendent is of opinion that if carved articles are kept in stock ready made, the District Board could make tens of thousands of rupees annually by

their sale-proceeds. From here Their Excellencies made a move to the Normal Department in the southern wing of the building and were pleased with the work turned out therein.

AT THE AMERICAN MISSION GIRLS' SCHOOL.

From the Technical Institute, Their Excellencies and party drove straight to the American Mission Girls' School building to lay the foundation stone of the new premises. The building was tastefully decorated, and as Their Excellencies entered the *shamiana*, the school girls sang a lyric of praise. The Rev. Mr. Chandler in welcoming Their Excellencies, made the following speech :—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LORD AND LADY AMPHILL, AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I have the privilege of welcoming Your Excellencies on behalf of the American Mission, the managers, teachers and pupils of the Girls' Training and High School and a Christian community of 17,000 from all castes in the district. The Periyár project brings from the west, streams of water that flow through this needy land and make it fruitful ; so the Missionary project brings from the west, streams of living water that flow into many souls and make them fruitful in the grace of Christian manhood and womanhood. This Girls' school was started 62 years ago (the year when His Majesty the King-Emperor was born) outside the limits of the town on the east, but now finds itself surrounded and crowded by a growing population, and is obliged to find room for its further development in this site on



the west. The new building will cost Rs. 59,000, of which two-thirds have been provided by Christian women in America, who have named it Capron Hall, as a memorial of Mrs. Capron who spent many years here in India, and was manager of this school, and who, after burying her husband on the banks of the Vigai river, thirty miles from Madura, retired to Boston, where she still lives and works for the missionary cause. The other third of the cost we hoped to receive from Your Excellency's Government. While the Director of Public Instruction has not seen his way to receive it all for us, we are thankful for the Rs. 12,000 that has been sanctioned. The lack of the remaining Rs. 7,500 will oblige us to leave a part of the upper story unfinished for the present, but we hope the school will so commend itself as to secure the necessary amount later on. We do most heartily and cordially acknowledge our indebtedness to Your Excellency's Government, for permitting this work to be done departmentally, and to Mr. Keeling and his subordinates for their personal and sympathetic interest in the work. The young woman, who will present a paper on the school, is one of two who have been the first to pass the Matriculation Examination from this school. They were successful in passing this examination last December. The two women who will garland Your Excellencies formerly studied in the school, and are now mothers of pupils who will participate in the exercises of this afternoon. This company of 300 girls now in the school and 3,000 women who formerly studied in it,

are one of the truest indications of the presence in this part of the Presidency of an independent, intelligent, self-respecting Christian community; for they represent homes that are scattered over the districts from the sea on the east, to the mountains on the west. It is the law of new England that every school house shall have the national flag flying over it in school hours, and travellers by rail can distinguish the country school houses by the flags waving over them. So the patrons of this school have sent out to it the British and American flags, which we wish to have unfurled after the laying of the corner stone—the one as a token of the loyalty to the throne, and the other in recognition of the friendship that binds together the two nations and unites them in the work for the common good.

The American Madura Mission Girls' Training and High School is the highest educational institution for girls in the Madura district, and the only one for training women as teachers. The date of the foundation of the school very nearly coincides with that of the American Madura Mission. In 1835 one of the early missionaries opened a little day-school for girls in Madura. That was the first girls' school in the district, and was the germ of the present school. Five years later that was organised as a boarding school. For years, in addition to free tuition, books, food, and clothing were supplied by the school, and a donation of Rs. 43 was given on gradation to every girl who took the full school course. Up to 1854 the girls were kept in the



school until they were married. In that year a regular course of study was adopted. The first results grants were received from Government in 1870. Six years later a teachers' class was formed, and the best pupils from other schools in the district were sent to Madura, to be trained as Primary teachers for their Mission schools. In 1881 the school presented its first candidates for the Middle School Examination. About fifteen years ago the Training School was reorganised in accordance with the requirements of the Educational Code, to train students for Primary and Lower Secondary Teachers' certificates. In 1890 a class for the Higher Examination for Women was formed, and the grade of the Training school was raised to the Upper Secondary. In the same year English was introduced as a regular study. Within a few years, a High School department has been added, and last year two girls passed the Matriculation Examination for the first time from this school. At the present time nearly all the women teachers in the girls' schools of this city, whether Mission or Government, were trained in this school. They might roughly estimate that more than 3,000 Christian girls have been educated here, and during the past sixteen years 366.

He then formerly asked His Excellency to lay the foundation stone for the building. This over, the *Alumni* of the institution next garlanded Their Excellencies. Then followed an English song. One of the two girls that passed the Matriculation Examination last year from this institution next read a

brief account of the school. In 1840 the institution was started with 9 girls on its rolls and now there are 315 pupils from different districts reading here. After another song and a prayer, His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the building and the British and American flags were next unfurled by Lady Amphill amidst cheers.

After declaring the foundation stone well and truly laid, His Excellency made the following speech :—

Before we bid you farewell I must beg leave to express very sincere thanks on behalf of Lady Amphill and myself for the most kind reception that you have accorded us. I assure you that it has been a very real pleasure to us to have been here and to have taken part in the interesting event which marks yet another stage in the prosperous and useful existence of the American Mission High School. I have had pleasure in seeing something of the good work of the American Mission at Vellore. I am, therefore, particularly glad to have also seen something of what the American Mission is doing here. I am one of those who are proud of the British kinship with the great American race, and who rejoice that the old misunderstandings have been so largely removed, and that the friendship, which ought to exist between those of the same blood, is becoming firmly established between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race (cheers). It is, therefore, a sincere satisfaction to me to find Americans taking part with us in



the work of education in India. It is time that the field is open to all nations, and it would be ungracious of me to forget the great work that has been done in the past, and is being done now, by the earnest, disinterested, devoted, men and women of all nations. But I may be pardoned if I feel a special pleasure in meeting those who, although they are not subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor, belong to our own race, speak our own tongue and are joint inheritors of our traditions, and, more than any other nation, share our ideas and principles (cheers). The British and American flags have waved together on many a platform during the past few years, and that they should wave together here to-day in this land, whose fortunes have been so strangely confided by Providence to the keeping of the British race, seems to me not only appropriate to the present occasion, as typifying the joint educational work which is being done by the British and Americans in Madura, but also a happy augury for the future and an omen of the joint work which will be done by our two nations all over the world in the cause of peace, progress and Christian goodwill towards all men. I have read the reports which have shown the history and progress of this useful flourishing school. I did so for my own information, and I do not propose, although I know it is very often the custom on occasions of this kind, to detain you by reciting facts which are far more familiar to you all than they were to me until a few hours ago. Rather will I tell you that we have greatly enjoyed

and been deeply interested in what we have seen and heard here this afternoon, and this interesting event in which we have taken part will be one of the most pleasant recollections of our pleasant travels. Lady Ampthill and I wish your school continued prosperity and success, and we hope that from the new home which will rise here will go forth many well-qualified teachers to spread education among the women of Southern India.

A scarf drill and song followed and the singing of the National Anthem terminated the proceedings.

Later in the evening His Excellency paid a visit to the Masonic Lodge.

VISIT TO A VILLAGE.

MADURA, 6th March.—This morning, His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Mr. A. G. Cardew, the Collector, Colonel O. V. Boddy, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Mr. H. Keeling, Executive Engineer, and Mr. T. Ramalinga Iyer, Special Executive Engineer, Periyár, paid a visit to Pothumbu, a village 6 miles from Madura. The party drove a distance of 4 miles over a country road just repaired for His Excellency, and then rode a mile and half on a tank bund before reaching the village. The ryots of the place had decorated their village in honour of the visit. On arrival at the village His Excellency inspected the village, walking along its narrow lanes, into the temple yard and in the back-yards of the houses, and thus saw village life as it



is in thousands of villages in Southern India. The chief object of the inspection was to see on which side the village could be extended, as it is greatly overcrowded. Since the opening of the Periyár project, almost every available plot of land has been taken up for cultivation, and all the waste lands in and around villages have been sold at public auctions to the highest bidders; with the result that very little land is left for communal purposes. In this village there is literally no margin of land left uncultivated and the villagers hardly have sufficient land on which their cattle can stand or graze.

Many retired officials and thriving Vakils rushed to this district to invest their superfluous wealth in lands which from time immemorial have been lying waste, and they bought up any and every plot of land, and the ryots born and bred in the villages, not being able to compete with speculating capitalists, are in the majority of cases holders of only small areas of land under the project. But they have now got a more certain and steady supply of water for irrigation and are therefore much better off than before. Still, they have their own grievances in regard to several matters, which were placed before His Excellency when he arrived at the pandal in front of the village *chavadi*.

When His Excellency took his seat, a Brahman gentleman, who had purchased 1,000 acres of land as an agent for a wealthy native gentleman belonging to the legal profession in Madras, came forward as the spokesman of the ryots who had desired him

to represent their wants to His Excellency. But the latter said that he had come to see and speak to the ryots directly, and he would, therefore, like to hear what they had to say and not then hear the wants of purchasers of lands under the Periyár. He had not come there to receive petitions or see *tamashas*, but to learn what the ryots had to say about themselves. There were some wants which they could represent to Tahsildars, some others to the Deputy Collectors and others still to the Collectors. With those things His Excellency had not much concern, though he would be very glad to hear them on those matters. They could speak to him quite freely and they need not be afraid as to what they said. When these preliminary words of encouragement had been conveyed to the ryots they came forward to state their wants.

THE WANT OF BUILDING SITES.

The first want brought to His Excellency's notice was insufficiency of house-sites in the village owing to the enormous and rapid expanse of cultivation all around. The deputation begged that 10 acres of the tank might be assigned for the purpose and filled at Government expense. His Excellency told them that he had been round the village and had seen that they were crowded, that the Collector had explained matters to him and told him that he was going to give the villagers a corner of the tank adjoining the village. They must, however, fill up that portion of the tank at their own expense.

ASSESSMENT COMPLAINTS.

A second ryot represented that since the introduction of the Periyár water, assessment had been increased. He begged that it might be reduced. The increase was one rupee over the former rate of assessment for *mamul* wet lands. In reply to His Excellency the ryot said that he had a certain supply of water since the Periyár project had been opened, and that the *punja* lands had improved; but the yield from the lands under the old *ayacut* had grown less than before, as the lands had become deteriorated. The conversion of dry into wet had resulted in bigger crops. His Excellency told him that he had been through the village and noticed their paddy fields had been well cropped, and they had well-stacked heaps of straw.

THE LACK OF GRAZING GROUNDS.

A third ryot complained that they had no ground for cattle to stand or graze on, all the waste lands having been sold. The Deputy Collector informed His Excellency that 20 acres had been assigned for the purpose, but from enquiry I learn that there are not more than 12 acres allotted, and that even these were not in suitable localities.

A PLEA FOR BETTER ROADS.

A fourth ryot who owned 15 acres, four pairs of bullocks, and paid Rs. 100 kist, urged that roads were necessary for manure leaves to be brought from forests. At present, owing to the absence of

these very necessary means of communication, the ryots suffered a great deal and they could not get as good a crop as they would with the aid of manure. A road from the village connecting it with the road to Madura was a desideratum. It was brought to His Excellency's notice that the Taluk Board of Madura had asked for a contribution from the village towards this road, and he asked the deputation why they could not pay such contribution. They said that they did pay the contribution. But it would appear that the amount was insufficient for the purpose and that an application was now made for some contribution from Provincial funds.

OTHER WANTS.

The next request was for the provision of a *pucka* village *chavadi* for them to meet and transact communal business. His Excellency thought it could not be granted as it would be establishing an inconvenient precedent. If granted to one village this concession would be applied for by other villages.

It was next submitted that the Government should not levy a third crop assessment as it was rumoured that it was going to levy such. His Excellency replied there was no foundation for the rumour.

The request was again preferred by a few more ryots that double crop assessment should be reduced and that 10 acres of land should be assigned for house sites and five acres for cattle grazing. The ryots also represented that the sluices in the tanks



were not sufficiently broad to allow of a proper supply of water to their wet lands. They also complained that the seigniorage on manure leaves was very high and should be reduced; the present rate was 3 pies per head load and 5 annas for a cart load and was too heavy to allow of using leaves as manure. They also complained that the administration of the Forest laws by the subordinates was very hard. The last request preferred was that the quit-rent on *inam* lands assigned to the temples was very high and should be reduced.

His Excellency then dismissed the deputation, but hardly had he gone out of the street when he was met at the entrance to the village by a body of poor Panchamas who begged that they might be given some land for house sites and also helped with funds to dig a drinking-water well. They said that those were their only wants and they would ever be grateful to His Excellency if he would help them.

His Excellency then returned to Madura in time for breakfast.

DEPUTATIONS.

At noon His Excellency received two deputations from the Sourashtra and Muhammadan communities. From the first body he received an address on the same lines as that presented to Sir Arthur Havelock on the occasion of his visit, which was as follows:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Sourashtras of Madura, most respectfully welcome

Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill to this city, the centre of weaving and dyeing industries in Southern India.

We beg to inform Your Excellency that we originally inhabited the Kingdom of Sourashtra, in the Province of Guzerat, and settled ourselves in this part of the country, in response to an invitation from Tirumala Naik, the greatest of the Naik Princes, more than two hundred and fifty years ago.

It would be interesting to Your Excellency to learn that this community now forms about forty-five per cent. of the population of this second important city in the Presidency, and it has been carrying on the industries of weaving and dyeing for which this city has been famous, ever since.

Our industries have been suffering from the importation of aniline dyes from Germany and Switzerland, of gilt threads from France, and of yarns of fine counts and piece-goods from Glasgow and Manchester.

The Industrial Schools Committee appointed by the Government of India, during their sittings in this city, a few weeks ago, declared that the industries of weaving and dyeing have reached such a stage, as to need expert advice if they are to thrive and cope with the improved industries of Europe.

Your Excellency will be glad to hear that the water of the Vaigai river has been pronounced by expert German Chemists as best suited for purposes of Turkey Red dyeing, and this has been confirmed by our long experience.



We therefore beg to bring to Your Excellency's kind consideration, the urgent need for the establishment of Textile Schools and Technical Dye-houses here in this city on scientific lines guided by experts and aided by Government.

Your Excellency's predecessor during his visit to this city in October 1897 in his kind reply to our address was pleased to direct us to submit a detailed and workable scheme about the establishment of practical weaving and dyeing schools, assuring us that it would receive careful attention from the Government; and such a scheme prepared after mature, though we regret to say unduly long, deliberation is now on hand which we hope to place shortly before Your Excellency.

We now therefore invite Your Excellency's sympathetic attention to this subject and pray that it may please Your Excellency to start the schools prayed for, conducting them on caste lines and thus confer a boon on this important weaving community of South India.

His Excellency made a brief reply which was translated to them in Tamil by Mr. L. Tulsiram their spokesman, and which was as follows :---

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

I thank you for your kind welcome. I have heard with great interest what you have told me about your community. I gather that you do not ask me to do anything until you have submitted the scheme which you have in hand. When I receive it,



I shall be very glad to give it my most careful attention. I am extremely anxious that everything which will encourage indigenous industries should be done. Further, if the scheme is one in which Government can fairly help, you may be sure that it will have my full sympathy. I do not think that your address requires any further reply than that. I am very glad to have seen you and if one of you wishes to add anything to what was already said in the address, I shall be glad to hear.

Mr. Tulsiram said that there were only a few educated men in the community and asked that as a sort of encouragement to the community their Matriculates and F.A.'s might be allowed to appear for Deputy Collector's Tests.

His Excellency said that they were asking for some preferential treatment, but that was a thing which could not possibly be granted and would not be fair to other classes of population. Wherever he went he was asked for special privileges, but Government could not grant them; the only test it applied was test of superior merit, and if there were Sourashtras possessed of merits better fitted for these places they would certainly be recognised and rewarded.

A MUHAMMADAN DEPUTATION.

After dismissing the deputation of the Sourashtras of Madura, His Excellency proceeded to discuss the most important question of the disposal of the dead of the local Muhammadan community. There



were over 30 representative members of the community present, headed by the Khazis of Madura, Dindigul, Palni and Periyakulam, His Excellency told the members that he more or less knew what they had come to speak to him about, but all the same he would like to hear it in detail from their own lips, and asked if one of them could speak on behalf of the others.

The Khazi of Madura, who was put forward as the spokesman of the deputation, began by expressing the gratification of the community at His Excellency's visit to Madura and by wishing long life and prosperity to His Excellency, who, he hoped, would in time become the Governor-General of India. With this loyal opening, the Khazi proceeded to state the views of the community on the question of Mussalman burial-grounds in the town. Muhammadans had been living in Madura over 200 years, and during all that time had their burial-grounds situated within the town. The question of the disposal of the dead amongst Muhammadans was closely connected with their religion, and the British Government had adopted the policy of non-interference in all religious matters. Their religious code enjoined the burial of their dead near their places of worship, so that the souls of the departed might hear the prayers offered in their mosques. The dead with them did not cease to exist after their departure from this world, but always lived in the tombs and were respected in the same way as the living. Prayers were offered in

their mosques six times a day, and these were partly for the benefit of departed souls, and every Muham-madan was bound to offer such prayers daily. This was laid down both in the Koran and in the blessed utterances of their prophet, the latter having equal weight with the commandments of the former. Some 300 years ago, when the Madura fort was built, care had been taken by those responsible for its construction to so construct its walls as not to interfere with the compound wall of their burial-ground. So much for the religious aspect of the question.

Then, if a gosha woman died, only certain relations of the deceased could see the dead body or carry it to the graveyard, these relations being the father, the paternal and maternal uncles, the brothers and their sons. Other relations were not allowed to see or touch the dead body and so could not carry it. A gosha woman was carried to the graveyard in gosha form, and bodies should be buried before the expiry of the day or the night in which the death took place. Nor could corpses be carried to the burial-ground on carts or by hired men. This was a strict injunction of the prophet. In the case of poor families, they found it very difficult to carry their dead even to their nearest graveyard. Much more so would this be the case if one had to carry the dead outside the town. The grave was generally dug 6 feet deep and was well closed after the corpse was covered with perfumes, such as camphor, sandal, etc. They smeared the



tomb with sandal paste for three to six months after burial, so that there could be no smell. On account of all these difficulties, the Khazi submitted that their burial-grounds should not be removed to any place far from their quarters. The British Government had always protected Muhammadans and the deputation had come to His Excellency in the full hope that he would continue the same treatment.

In reply to a question from His Excellency, the Khazi submitted that the farthest distance to which they had to carry their dead in Madura was only about a furlong. In fact, practically all of them lived together round the burial-ground and there were, to his knowledge, no Muhammadans in Madura who lived further than half a furlong from it. Their burial-ground in Madura was a very extensive one, and it could never get filled up at any time. They did not bury in the same place over again, and yet there was still room in their graveyard. They were prepared to show that this was the case. If some burial-grounds happened to be small, it meant that only a few houses used it and therefore it could not become too full. If an adjoining plot of ground was available, they bought such for purposes of extension. The Khazi was not aware of any Muhammadan burial-ground in Madura or any elsewhere being closed for want of room. He said that the burial-ground in Triplicane was within the town and he had heard that the same was the case in London with regard to Muhammadan graves.

FIFTH TOUR OF

His Excellency next questioned the Khazi of Periyakulam, asking if he knew the reason why Government wished to close the existing burial-grounds and give them other sites. The Khazi answering in the negative, the Governor explained that it was not for interfering with religion in any way, but that it was wholly on sanitary grounds. When corpses were buried underground too near dwelling-houses, water percolating through it polluted the underground supply and choleraic and typhoid diseases were generated. Therefore, a burial-ground like that did harm both to themselves and to people outside their community.

Asked if the health of Periyakulam had been good, and whether there had been no more cholera and typhoid than in other places, the Tahsildar, who was present, explained that every year they had cholera at Periyakulam and in a severe form and worse than in other places. There were no wells near burial-grounds at Periyakulam.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, who was also present at the interview, on being questioned by His Excellency, said that any water within a catchment area of 220 yards from burial-grounds would be affected by them.

The Khazi of Palni next submitted that there was no drinking-water well near the burial-ground in his town and there was a high compound wall raised around it. The burial-ground, which had a large vacant space in it, was surrounded only by Muhammadan houses, and had a rocky substratum, so that



no source of drinking water was likely to be contaminated.

The Dindigul Khazi said that there were nine burial-grounds in his town and most Muhammadans lived around the one in the central part of the town. It was a rule with them that all relations should be buried in the same ground. There were no wells near any of their burial-grounds, which were kept particularly clean. There had never been any cholera or plague at Dindigul. Sick children were usually brought to the mosque and mud from the burial-ground was mixed with milk and given to them as medicine, with successful results. The Khazi mentioned with pride that many Sub-Collectors had inspected the graveyards, and being satisfied with their condition, had recommended their retention.

His Excellency was informed by the officials that at Palni a new site had been selected within 6 furlongs from the Muhammadan quarters, and at a distance of a mile at Dindigul and 6 furlongs at Periyakulam, one for the northern and one for the southern part.

In dismissing the deputation, His Excellency said that he perfectly understood their objections, but had not then formed any opinion on the matter. He had yet to hear what else had to be said about it, and so had not made up his mind. He would, however, remember all that they had told him and consider their representations carefully when he got back to Madras. Just then he could not give them

any assurance, or make any promises, as it was a matter which required careful thought. He was glad to have seen them and heard what they had to say. With reference to the observation of the Khazi of Madura on the subject of graveyards in London, His Excellency said that these were now being removed far from dwelling-houses, and in many cases dead bodies were carried 4 or 5 miles from town and buried there. He did not know anything about Muhammadan graves in London.

The deputation then withdrew.

In the evening His Excellency paid a visit to the Madura Union Club, where he was welcomed by the Hon'ble Mr. G. Srinivasa Rao, the President, and members, and shown round.

At 5-15 P.M. Their Excellencies attended a Garden Party at the Collector's residence, to which Mr. and Mrs. Cardew had invited all the European ladies and gentlemen and the leading native gentlemen.

VISIT TO THE JAIL.

7th March.—The forenoon of this day was devoted to visiting the District Jail and the Hospitals in the town. At the District Jail, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, I.M.S., who is in charge of it, met His Excellency and conducted him over the several wards, where the prisoners, who numbered 401, were at work. His Excellency remarked in the



Visitors' Book :—" I visited the Jail this morning and saw nothing to criticise. First-rate order seemed to prevail."

THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

Their Excellencies, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, Captain Molesworth, Captains Fife and Strong, Mr. A. G. Cardew and Mr. E. L. R. Thornton, then visited the Municipal Hospital. Here Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, I.M.S., the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, and Mr. C. Munisami Mudaliar, the Assistant Surgeon in immediate charge of the Hospital, received Their Excellencies and took them over the building. There are 70 beds in the hospital, and as many as 60 were occupied. There is also a maternity branch attached to the hospital, where Colonel Thomas trains midwives and sends them out to the districts. Two are trained every year and Colonel Thomas recently obtained two scholarships for midwifery students from the Dufferin Fund. For efficiency in hospital work this stands first among mofussil hospitals, and it also occupies the first rank for maternity work. Over 250 out-patients attend the hospital every day. His Excellency left the following record in the Visitors' Book :—" Everything seems to be in as good order as the antiquated and inconvenient buildings permit, and I am very glad that a new hospital is about to be constructed on modern lines and more adequate to the requirements of the district." Her Excellency also stated that the women in the

hospital seemed to be most carefully and kindly looked after.

Shunmugappa Chetty and Arunachalla Chetty, two of the leading Nattukottai Chetty merchants of Madura, have each offered to construct a ward of six beds each, the one exclusively for Brahmans and the other for other classes.

THE ALBERT VICTOR HOSPITAL.

The next institution visited by Their Excellencies was the Albert Victor Hospital popularly known as Dr. Van Allen's Hospital. This is a handsome two-storied structure, which cost Rs. 40,000, the amount being entirely contributed by the native gentry of the Madura and Tinnevely districts, especially the Zamindars of Singampatti, Setur, Sivagiri, Ramnad, and the rich and influential Nattukottai Chetties. There are two wards, each containing one bed, and during the last year 1,200 major and minor operations were performed in the hospital, which, under the medical charge of the genial Dr. Van Allen, has achieved great popularity among natives of all classes. The hospital is maintained by the Madura American Mission and is well stocked with a large store of medicines and the best surgical appliances in use in hospitals of this description. Their Excellencies inspected with interest the glass operating table, which had been purchased in America at a cost of Rs. 1,000, contributed by American ladies. No higher compliment can be paid to the excellent management of this

hospital than that recorded by His Excellency in the following words :—“ It has been a real pleasure and highly interesting to see this model hospital. I have told Dr. Van Allen that if I were ill I should not desire better treatment or more comfort than I should get here.” Before returning to the Collector's residence for breakfast, His Excellency inspected the new premises for the Collector's office, which is rapidly approaching completion, while Her Excellency visited the Mission Women and Children's Hospital, which is doing exceedingly good work in affording medical relief to hundreds of women in Madura.

VISIT TO THE SETUPATI HIGH SCHOOL.

MADURA, 7th March.—This evening, His Excellency Lord Ampthill performed two most interesting functions, the first being the distribution of prizes to the little girls of the “ Ranee Girls' School ” that were assembled at the Setupati High School, and the second being the prize-giving to the successful students at the Native College. His Excellency first visited the former institution and His Excellency and party were here conducted to the *shamiana* by Mr. Narayanasawmi Iyer, B.A., L.T., the Headmaster, and Mr. S. S. Venkatramana Iyengar, Pleader and Member of the Managing Committee of the Institution. The welcome by the girls, their playing on the violin and the kolatam

dance showed the excellence of the training imparted to the girls attending the girls' school. There was then a short dialogue, the text of which was the approaching coronation and a welcome to His Majesty the King-Emperor and His Excellency Lord Ampthill. The following address presented here was taken as read :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—It is with feelings of great pride and happiness that we beg leave to approach Your Excellency with this humble address and cordially welcome Your Excellency to this institution. This is one of the largest aided high schools in the Presidency, counting on its rolls more than 1,000 pupils and having on the staff ten graduates, five of whom are licentiates in teaching. Moral and religious instruction forms an additional feature in the curriculum of studies provided in the institution. The efficient working of the school and the hostel may be seen from the following remarks of the Director of Public Instruction :—“ The Director is glad to note that the Victoria Hostel is being well managed. The general condition and the tone and discipline of the school continues to be satisfactory. The school acquitted itself very fairly at the public examinations and at the inspection. The generally efficient manner in which the institution is conducted is creditable to the Manager and the staff.” In the “ Ranee Girls' School ” attached to the institution, Native music and other instruction adapted to Hindu homes are



imparted in addition to the curriculum of studies prescribed by the department. The institution which was established in 1889 is under the management of Mr. S. S. Venktaramana Iyengar, who has made no small sacrifice in securing for the school suitable buildings and necessary equipments at a cost of between 60 and 70 thousand rupees, and whose energy is now directed towards raising a permanent fund for its further development. The popularity and success of the high school and of the hostel is mainly due to the munificent help of its patron the Setupati and his Ranee, after whom the institutions are named in grateful acknowledgment of their patronage. We also beg leave to avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our feelings of gratefulness to Your Excellency's Government for the increased allotments made under Educational Grants which, we trust, will relieve the Managers of efficient and deserving institutions from their present financial difficulties, and we pray that during Your Excellency's sympathetic administration, our Manager's hostel scheme for providing accommodation for 100 students, will receive the liberal support of Government. Before concluding, we invoke Heaven's choicest blessings on Your Excellency for the great kindness with which Your Excellency has been pleased to grace the institution with a visit and encourage us in our work; and we devoutly pray for the long life and continued prosperity of Your Excellency and Lady Ampthill.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

His Excellency distributed the prizes to the girls and this over, he made the following speech :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I am bound to tell you, lest you should be disappointed, that I was entirely unprepared for this magnificent reception that you have accorded and for the extremely bright entertainment which I have just had the pleasure of witnessing. I came here under the impression that I was merely to see the school and the school building and glean information about it from the Manager. Instead of that I find that you have erected a magnificent pandal and prepared an extremely pretty entertainment for me, that I have been called upon to give away prizes and now I suppose a speech is expected of me. I am afraid that even Governors are not able to turn on speeches like a phonograph at a moment's notice. I hope that you will not be disappointed if I tell you that I have no speech appropriate or fitted to the occasion to give you. All I can say is that it has been a very real pleasure to me to witness the pretty performances of the little girls, two of whom I am interested to hear are daughters of two gentlemen whose acquaintance I have had the pleasure of making since I have been in Madura and with whom I hope I have established a friendship which will last for some time. I mean Mr. T. M. Rangachariar and Rao Bahadur M. S. Narayanasawmi Iyer, both of whom have been extremely kind to me



during my visit to Madura. I am glad also to know that one of the two budding orators whose dialogue I greatly appreciated is also a son of Mr. Narayanasawmi Iyer and I congratulate him very much on having such a promising offspring. I greatly regret that it has not been possible for Lady Ampthill to be present here this afternoon. When I describe to her what I have seen here, I am sure that she will share my regret and disappointment. I am sure it would have greatly delighted her to have heard the music and to have seen the *kolatam* and to have shared with me your very kind welcome and this very handsome entertainment which you have been good enough to give me. I have learnt with pleasure of the flourishing condition of the school, and I hope that it will continue to prosper in the way it has been doing in the past. I shall carry away extremely pleasant and interesting recollection of my visit here and before I bid you farewell, I have one request to make of Mr. S. S. Venkatramana Iyengar, to whom I am much obliged for all that he has told me. I will ask him to place me under one more obligation by granting a holiday to the boys and girls in honour of my visit.

VISIT TO THE NATIVE COLLEGE.

A move was next made to the Native College where His Excellency and party were welcomed by Mr. S. Vencobachariar, B.A., the Principal, and Rao Bahadur M. S. Narayanasawmi Iyer, the Secretary to the Managing Committee. Here there was

a welcome song in Tamil, followed by an *ex tempore* speech by an F.A. class student on "Knowledge is power." This over, Rao Bahadur M. S. Narayanasawmi Iyer presented His Excellency with the following address :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the Members of the Committee of the Madura Native College, beg to offer Your Excellency a sincere and cordial welcome on the occasion of your visit to this institution. The Committee wish to avail themselves of this opportunity to place before Your Excellency a short history of the origin and growth of the Madura Native College. The institution is the outcome of purely indigenous efforts in the cause of secondary education. In the year 1880, some of the leading gentlemen of this city found it necessary to establish a high school. It was designated the Native High School and managed by a Committee. When the Government College was abolished on the 1st January 1889, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Education Commission, this Committee, at the request of the leading inhabitants of the district, offered to Government, through the then Director of Public Instruction, to open college classes in their high school, if the Government would be pleased to hand over the college buildings to them. On the strong recommendation of a former Collector of the district, Mr. Edward Turner, the Government kindly accepted their offer and transferred to them not only the college buildings rent-free, but also all its



furniture, library and apparatus. The Native College was thus established in February 1889, and has been managed since by a Committee with the Collector of the district as their President. The institution embraces three departments,—College, Upper Secondary and Primary,—and is open to all classes of the community. It has at present on its rolls 1,074 pupils with a staff consisting of 45 teachers. It is maintained from school-fee collections and from grants from Provincial and Municipal funds. It has a library of over 2,000 volumes, gymnasium with a complete set of apparatus, a reading-room, debating societies and lawn tennis, badminton and foot-ball courts. Attached to the institution are one endowed scholarship called the Ramnad Ranee Tamil Scholarship and one endowed prize, the Nilakanta Sastri Gold Medal. The Committee beg to bring to Your Excellency's notice that, ever since the institution came under their management, the responsible officers of Government, who have visited it in the course of their official duties have borne testimony to the earnest endeavours of the Committee to make it useful to the public and also to the success which has attended their efforts and in his latest proceedings on the working of the college, the Director of Public Instruction has remarked that "the continued efficiency of the institution reflects credit on the management and the staff." The rapid development and the present flourishing condition of the college are mainly due to the special encouragement

which the Government has been pleased to extend to it from time to time. The strength of the institution was only 228 when it was first raised to the rank of a second-grade college. It doubled itself within the next two years. Additional accommodation became therefore absolutely necessary. The Director of Public Instruction promptly recognised the necessity and strongly urged the Government to enlarge the building at its cost, as there was no Government College in the Presidency to the south of Kumbakonam and as it was in the interests of the State to make this institution as efficient as possible. The Government acceded to his recommendation in a liberal spirit and sanctioned the proposed enlargement. This spacious hall where we have the privilege of welcoming Your Excellency and the adjoining buildings were then constructed and Lord Wenlock who was then Governor of Madras did us the honour of opening them on the 9th November 1992. While we fully appreciate to the assistance and encouragement we have received from the Government and are highly grateful for the same, we feel we shall be wanting in our duty, if we fail to bring to Your Excellency's notice on this occasion the need for a completely equipped hostel to enable the college to fulfil all the objects of an educational institution. A beginning has been made in this direction and a house taken on mortgage for the purpose. But it has not been found possible to provide accommodation in it for students of all castes. With a view to erect suitable buildings to



meet the needs of this expanding institution, the Committee applied to the municipal council for a site, none being available by the side of the college, as the adjacent lands had all been taken up for the Madura-Pámban Railway. The council has, with the permission of the Government, generously resolved to sell the site for Rs. 6,100. But the final sanction of the Government has not been accorded yet, pending a reference to the municipal council as to whether another site for municipal purposes can be purchased for the amount to be paid by the Committee. We respectfully pray that, when the matter comes up before Your Excellency in Council, Your Excellency may be pleased to accord sanction to it especially in view of the fact that there is no other site available in the vicinity of the college and also to direct a liberal grant-in-aid to be made towards the erection of the hostel buildings. We respectfully beg to assure Your Excellency that, as in the past, we shall spare no pains to make the college worthy of the special favour which may be extended to it. In conclusion, we beg to tender to Your Excellency our most heartfelt thanks for the very great honour you have done us by your visit to the college, and wish you and Lady Amphyll long life and prosperity.

His Excellency then distributed the prizes and made the following speech :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I thank you sincerely for your kind words of welcome and for the cordial reception which you have given me. I greatly

regret that it has not been possible for Lady Ampthill to accompany me here this afternoon and to share with me the kind reception you have given me. By no means the least interesting part of my tour has been my visits to the important educational establishments which flourish in the districts of Tanjore and Madura, and I shall carry away with me the pleasant impressions of the earnest and strenuous efforts on the part of the teachers and Managers in the cause of the rising generation who are profiting by the instruction they receive and fitting themselves to take part in many important spheres of life. I am much obliged to you for having made your address the means of acquainting me with the origin, progress, formation and resources of your college, all of which I have listened to with great interest. You refer with becoming modesty to the favourable opinion about the college entertained by the educational officers of Government and I have myself perused the annual reviews of the Director of Public Instruction for the past six years and learned with pleasure that throughout that period the general condition, tone and discipline of the college have been satisfactory and have reflected credit on the Managing Committee, the Headmaster and the staff. I am therefore in the pleasant position of being able to offer them my congratulations which are accompanied by a sincere hope that they will be successful in maintaining the efficiency of the college in the future as they have been in the past. There is an old saying that "thanks-giving



for a former doth invite a further benefit," and you have not failed to act in accordance with this time-honoured principle. You acknowledge very handsomely the assistance you have already received from Government, but you want more. Well, I do not blame you for this, and indeed I think you are right to ask Government for anything you think you can get out of it. There is nothing to be lost by asking, so far as my experience of this world goes. Well, your present requests are that sanction should be accorded to the purchase of the site offered to you by the Municipal Council, and that Government should make you a liberal grant-in-aid towards the erection of the hostel buildings. The matter, as you say, has not yet come before Government in a complete form, and you rightly recognise that it is, therefore, not possible for me to make you any promise. All that I can say, and I think that it is all that you wish me to say, is that it shall be considered with care and sympathy.

And now, gentlemen, I offer you once more my thanks and good wishes and I repeat that I am glad to have had this opportunity of seeing this flourishing institution and presenting prizes to some of its most promising students. To them and also to all their school-mates I wish that success in life which results from industry, good conduct and high character. Before I bid you farewell I should like to make one request of the Headmaster and that is that he will be good enough to give a holiday to all the boys and students of the school in honour of

my visit. It will be a very great gratification to me, if he will kindly accede to my request and add very much to the pleasure of my visit.

His Excellency then left for the Collector's residence amidst the enthusiastic cheering of the boys.

DEPARTURE FROM MADURA.

After dinner the Governor and party accompanied by Mr. A. G. Cardew left Madura for Ammayanáyakkanúr which was reached about 10-15 P.M. Here they slept at the travellers' bungalow for the night.

THE PERANAI ANICUT.

8th March.—Early in the morning His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Mr. Cardew, Colonel O. V. Boddy, R.E., Mr. L. M. Wynch, Mr. Labouchere Thornton, Mr. H. T. Keeling, Executive Engineer, and Mr. A. Ramalinga Iyer, the Executive Engineer in charge of the Periyár Irrigation, went out to visit the Peranai, or the big anicut which is situated about twelve miles from the railway station. Part of the distance was done by means of carriages and part by riding. The Peranai was reached about 7-30 A.M.

For a proper understanding of the part played by the Peranai or "great dam" and the "Chinnanai" or "little dam" (lower down the Vaigai) in the irrigation of the Madura country it will be



useful to dwell shortly on the river system in the district, which is of the simplest character. The Vaigai and the Surliyar are the two main streams which carry off the drainage of the immense valleys formed by the mountain system of Madura. These two rivers, after meandering some 30 miles down the valley in almost parallel curves, meet a little south of Allinagaram in the Bódináyakkanúr valley, the Surliyar becoming merged in the Vaigai and being no more heard of. The Vaigai enters the Madura district at a spot some eight miles distant from Sholavandan, on the South Indian Railway. Then it takes a decided south-easterly course and flowing along a shallow sandy bed from 200 to 400 yards wide in an almost direct line across the district and finally empties itself into the sea, that is to say, the waters of the Vaigai take this direction and reach the sea when sufficient in volume. Mr. J. H. Nelson describes the bed of the river Vaigai as being all but dry during by far the greater portion of the year even at Madura 100 miles or so from its mouth, and dry all the year round at Ramnad. Near the point where the Vaigai enters the Madura country it is dammed up by the Peranai and by this means a considerable portion of its waters was diverted into a channel taken off from its left bank, and a few miles lower down it is again obstructed by the "Chinnanai" or "little dam," the Vaigai emptying into a channel on its right bank the greater part of what may be left of its now greatly diminished stream. It is unnecessary

in this connection to give particular descriptions of the other so-called rivers in the district, which form together an important feature of the river system such as it exists in the district.

ANCIENT LOCAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

The manner in which the former ruler of the country utilized the supplies of water rendered available in the Vaigai and other minor tributary rivers is somewhat interesting. Mr. Nelson says :—
“ The Native rulers early discovered the fact that to the east of the mountains the district slopes down constantly towards the sea with an average fall of about 10 feet per mile, and they took advantage of this lie of the land to establish a simple but effectual system of irrigation. Wherever the surface dipped a little on either side of the Vaigai, a strong curved embankment was run up to the height of a few feet with its concave side facing the river ; and a channel was taken off at a spot nearly as high above the level of the sea as the top of the embankment. By means of this channel water was made to run in flood time to the low-lying land and the tank or reservoir was complete. Flowing against the embankment the water rose to the required height and became available for irrigation by means of sluices and channels.”
These sluices and channels carry the waters to innumerable tanks and reservoirs which form so peculiar a feature of the irrigation system of the district.



Visvanatha Naick, the founder of the Nayaka dynasty, who succeeded to power in 1559, was the builder of these dams. He saw the languishing condition of cultivation generally and the scanty and insufficient population of the tracts through which the Vaigai flowed, and set himself to remedy these defects by taking off large channels from the upper reaches of the Vaigai, by the construction of dams, and by building new villages on the tracts watered by the channels, which then came into existence. All these schemes of improvement from the time of Visvanatha down to our own have had for their object the making of the Vaigai more useful than it naturally was. The immense Periyár project has done and was intended to do no more. The Periyár water, after leaving the tunnel, enters the bed of the Viravanar and the Surliyar a tributary of the Vaigai by which it flows to the Peranai; at which point the distribution channels take off. From the tunnel to this dam it is about 86 miles.

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PERANAI.

The Peranai is an old anicut of native construction for the benefit of the Vadagarai channel which already irrigated 4,200 acres through an open head. This anicut is 1,300 feet long and runs in a tortuous line across the river. The crest is not uniform, there being in places a difference of a foot in level and the section is also very irregular. Through repeated repairs, however, it has become



fairly massive and though the maximum flood velocity is computed to be 28 feet, per second, the greater part of the coping is of granite and it was, therefore, decided not to make extensive alterations. About 900 feet on the right the foundation is of rock and the coping is laid on a body wall of brick of varying length. The left portion is built on a soft soil and a massive but irregular apron has accumulated in the rear. These portions were practically left untouched, but on the extreme left a scouring sluice was built consisting of five vents of $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet $\times$ 6 feet, the shutters are worked by screw gearing from a platform $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the crest of the anicut, and $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet above the highest recorded flood, the sill of the sluices being $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the crest. On the right and left, massive wings form a junction with the anicut and head sluices respectively; and the left bank of the river in rear is heavily revetted. The head sluices of the Periyár channel which takes off at the Peranai dam is an important structure of eight vents of 10 feet span each with sluice gates $10\frac{3}{4}$ feet worked by double screws connected by a chain of toothed pinions. The sills are 6 feet below the anicut crests, the platform being at the same level as that of the scouring sluice. The area of the vents when free from silt is 480 square feet and they are designed to pass 2,000 cubic feet a second. The particulars of the description are taken from Mr. A. T. Mackenzie's standard volume on the Periyár works. The discharge at the head sluice of the Periyár channel is 1,200 cubic feet per

second, which in the result gives 2 cubic yards of water per hour for an acre. The total ayacut under the Periyár channel is 80,000 acres. Despite the existence of three old sand sluices in the old dam, and the existence also of the scouring sluices constructed on modern principles, the silting at the head sluice could not be satisfactorily put an end to, and during the last two years or so 102 falling shutters were fixed on the lower sections of the old anicut so as to allow silt being washed down the river when the water overflows the shutters. The provision of the falling shutters has led to a law suit by Mr. Fisher of Madura, who contends that the ryots lower down the Peranai dam are entitled to the water overflowing the Peranai and that the provision of the falling shutters is an interference with such rights. It is proposed, however, to demolish the present Poranai dam which runs diagonally across the river and to construct a new regulator on the pattern of the Cauvery-Vennar regulators across the river, the normal width of which is 450 feet. The proposed regulator will begin from the old sand sluice and will consist of 10 vents about 36 feet each. The top of the proposed shutters will be on a level with the crest of the present anicut.

His Excellency, in company with the engineering officials, examined the head sluice, the covering sluice, and the Peranai dam itself very carefully and also had the plans and estimates of the proposed regulator explained to him minutely.

THE RETURN TO MADRAS.

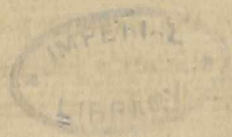
After refreshment at the Public Works Department bungalow the party returned to Ammayanáyakkanúr in time for breakfast. After this His Excellency and party took train to Sholavandan whither they went snipe shooting. In the evening they took the fast mail for Madras at Sholavandan. At Ammayanáyakkanúr Mr. Cardew, the Collector, took leave of His Excellency the Governor and stayed behind. Mr. Thornton accompanied the party as far as Dindigul and there took leave of His Excellency.

The South Indian Railway authorities deserve congratulation on the excellent arrangements they made for His Excellency's journey in special trains, without the least hitch or inconvenience to the ordinary train service. Colonel Creighton, the Locomotive Superintendent, and Mr. H. Davies, the Traffic Manager, travelled with the party throughout and personally superintended the whole Railway arrangements, while Mr. F. Fawcett, the Superintendent of Railway Police, and his staff of Inspectors looked after the arrangements in regard to the Railway platforms.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. L. M. Wynch, I.C.S., Private Secretary, and Captain Strong, A.D.C., arrived in Madras by the 9th March morning's fast mail train of the South Indian Railway, after a tour in the Tanjore and

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Madura districts. His Excellency was met on the platform at the Egmore station by Her Excellency Lady Ampthill, who came accompanied by Captain the Hon'ble R. Lygon. There were also present Brigadier-General Gilchrist, Mr. J. Twigg, I.C.S., Collector of Madras, and Mr. O. R. Jones, Commissioner of Police. His Excellency's arrival was private. Mr. F. W. Fawcett, Superintendent, Government Railway Police, travelled in charge of the train.



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